

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THANKING FRANK MILASI FOR HIS
SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of his retirement in November 2005, we rise to thank Mr. Frank Milasi for 28 years of distinguished service to the United States House of Representatives. Frank has served this great institution as a valuable employee at House Information Resources (HIR), in the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Throughout his career with HIR, Frank has held many positions of increasing responsibility. He began his tenure with the United States House of Representatives on August 1, 1977 as a Senior Programmer. While serving in HIR, Frank addressed long needed automation and reporting issues in each area of benefits administration, which enabled compliance with all House reporting and auditing requirements. Due to his development of the computer generated Revised Substitute Standard Form 2010 "Notice of Change in Health Benefits Enrollment," the U.S. House of Representatives became one of the first Federal Agencies to have this form approved for use.

Frank displayed great passion for his work by personally dedicating himself to ensuring that the Financial Management System (FMS) met the needs of the U.S. House of Representatives' payroll and Human Resources requirements. As a Senior Software Engineer, he applied his exceptional analytical and programming technical skills to the development, design and implementation of many payroll services provided to the House community. Included in these services is the NFC Thrift Savings Plan (TSP). Frank's work enabled the House to be one of only three government agencies that provided this benefit on time and correctly. Frank's expertise in FMS with over 900,000 lines of code has resulted in more than 3.5 million payroll payments. In addition, as he prepared to retire, Frank played a major role in the implementation of the new payroll and benefits system, HR Pay Links.

His standard of excellence, dedication to passionate customer service, professionalism and ability to get the job done earned him three Distinguished Service Awards, the Chief Administrative Officer's highest honor. He is admired by the people he led and appreciated by those he served. May he always look back on his accomplishments with pride.

On behalf of the entire House community, we extend congratulations to Frank for many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the United States House of Representatives. We wish Frank many wonderful years in fulfilling his retirement dreams.

HONORING MAJOR GENERAL
THOMAS P. MAGUIRE, JR.

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize a great American patriot and good friend, retiring Major General Thomas P. Maguire, for his extraordinary accomplishments throughout a distinguished career.

As GEN Maguire steps down as New York's Adjutant General, I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of New York and a grateful Nation to express our gratitude for his diligence and exceptional leadership through our State's most trying times.

GEN Maguire assumed command of New York's National Guard in August 2001, just one month before the terrorist attacks on the Pentagon and World Trade Center. Under his command, the National Guard was thrust into unprecedented responsibilities in contributing to and strengthening our homeland security. His leadership was a critical component of restoring the safety and way of life for New Yorkers after September 11th.

It is for these reasons, and many others, that General Maguire should be recognized as a patriot and a great man. Tom graduated from Holy Cross College in 1969, just as I began my college career at the same school. He left with a Degree in History and as a distinguished graduate of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Program.

In 1970, he earned his wings, beginning a long and distinguished career that included 250 combat flights during his tour of duty in Vietnam. His military decorations included the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with nine oak leaf clusters.

Upon his return, GEN Maguire served as a flight instructor before joining the New York Air National Guard's 137th Tactical Air Support Squadron in 1974. In the years that followed, GEN Maguire excelled in various commands and as a forward air controller, brigade liaison officer, standardization officer, air operations officer, Deputy Commander for Operations and Vice Commander before assuming command of the 137th in 1994. He is also a veteran of Operation Desert Storm.

Under GEN Maguire's command, New York's National Guard has not only performed its military mission with excellence, but it has also been an integral part of our state's emergency response force and contributed to many international disaster relief missions.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all New Yorkers, I thank and congratulate Major General Maguire for his outstanding service and a highly distinguished career. We wish him and his family continued success and a bright future in the years ahead.

STATEMENT ON JOSEPH
MC CARTHY

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, the House rejected legislation naming a post office after longtime Berkeley Councilwoman Maudelle Shirek. I cosponsored this legislation, and I believe strongly that the Federal Government should honor Maudelle Shirek for her many civic contributions.

This vote became a news sensation. My colleague, Rep. STEVE KING, told one newspaper that "if BARBARA LEE would read the history of Joe McCarthy, she would realize that he was a hero for America."

I could not disagree more, and I am alarmed that my colleague would exalt such a mean, vindictive, tyrant.

Senator McCarthy blindly accused his enemies of communism and homosexuality without any evidence or genuinely patriotic motive. This corrupt bully exploited the fears of the American people to boost his own political career.

Senator McCarthy's only achievement was inspiring an anti-communist hysteria that ruined the lives of thousands of innocent Americans.

As a Japanese American, I know the devastating effects of mass fear and hysteria. During World War II, my family and thousands of other Japanese American families were forced into camps—deprived of their dignity, liberty, and property.

At a time like this, I am reminded of the words of Special Counsel for the Army Joseph Welch, who in a 1954 hearing poignantly asked of Senator McCarthy, "Have you no sense of decency, sir, at long last?"

THANKING MR. JOHN MANG FOR
HIS SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of his retirement in September 2005, we rise to thank Mr. John Mang for 30 years of outstanding service to the U.S. House of Representatives.

John began his career at the House on September 15, 1975, working as a Programmer Analyst in House Information Systems for the Committee on House Administration. John was a key player in the development of the Financial Management System (FMS). In addition, John contributed to the Client Support System, the Parking Office Permits System, the Lobby Act Support System, the Office of Telecommunications Management Information System, the House Recording Studio system, the Legislative Information Management System, and others.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

As a Senior Software Engineer in the House Information Resources Information Management Directorate's Applications Support Branch, John made significant contributions as a team member in the implementation and enhancement of the Fixed Assets and Inventory Management System (FAIMS). FAIMS is a mission critical system used by the Chief Administrative Officer to collect, record and report official financial information on fixed assets, generate related payments, and report on Accounts Payable, Purchasing and General Ledger activities.

John has been a valuable, loyal, hard-working and customer-oriented employee, who takes pride in consistently delivering quality products to customers. His great attention to detail and passion for his work have resulted in special recognition for his work on FAIMS and FMS. John has dedicated himself to ensuring that the needs of his customers in the Office of Finance, House Support Services, the Sergeant at Arms, the Congressional Budget Office, the Office of the Clerk, and the Committees are met. John's adaptability, his extensive knowledge of software engineering, and his excellent relationship with his customers were invaluable to deploying and enhancing FAIMS.

On behalf of the entire House community, we extend congratulations to John for his many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the House of Representatives. We wish John many wonderful years in fulfilling his retirement dreams.

HONORING PAUL SIDNEY

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate a good friend, neighbor and constituent, Mr. Paul Sidney, for his extraordinary accomplishments, which are being celebrated and honored by winning this year's Long Island Lifetime Achievement Award.

Everyone on Long Island knows Paul Sidney is the man behind the music. He is the president, general manager and program director of radio station WLNG, owned by the independent Main Street Broadcasting Company and based in Sag Harbor in my district on eastern Long Island.

Paul Sidney's broadcasts can be heard from Mastic to Montauk. The signal even reaches parts of Rhode Island and Connecticut. Listeners tuning into 92.1 FM are almost always certain to hear sounds that were the standards when Paul was growing up in Brooklyn.

After graduating from NYU with a communications degree, Paul launched his career playing oldies for WLIS-FM in Old Saybrook, Connecticut. While the radio industry nationwide and locally has witnessed considerable change in that time, WLNG established its signature style long ago with Paul leading the way and building a loyal, ever-growing fan base on Long Island that continues to feed off his charisma and his familiar, swift-talking voice.

Paul and WLNG have been in business for 41 years. He has worked tirelessly to solidify

ties to local businesses, including advertisers ranging from Lamplighter Wines in Southampton to Hildreth's Department Store in the East End to Suffolk County National Bank. The station hosts some 250 live remote broadcasts each year from local stores, street fairs, antique auctions, car shows, and sporting events. It even broadcast live from the Cole Brothers Circus, when it appeared in Southampton and Greenport.

At most of these remote broadcasts, Paul works from the mobile control room, and one or two of the other D.J.'s host live on-the-air interviews in the crowd. When not broadcasting from a remote location, Mr. Sidney and his staff work out of their modest studio on Redwood Road, by the waterfront of Sag Harbor Cove.

The station reflects Paul's style by still embracing old-fashioned radio favorites. Listeners also regularly receive a big dose of local news, weather and information, like birth announcements, birthday and anniversary wishes and reports of missing pets. Perhaps the spirit of his radio station was best summed up when Paul recently said, "If someone loses their puppy, we treat it as a big deal. . . This is radio the way it used to be, being with the community, talking to them."

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all of his devoted listeners on Long Island, it is with great pride that I recognize one of Long Island's trademark personalities and congratulate Paul Sidney for winning this year's Lifetime Achievement Award. We look forward to hearing him on the radio well into the future and wish him and his family well.

HONORING THE EXCELLENCE OF WEST VIRGINIA IN HOSPITALS

HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to three West Virginia hospitals that have been commemorated by the AARP, as being three of the Best Employers for Workers over the Age of 50. The well deserving hospitals include St. Mary's Hospital in Huntington, Cabell Huntington Hospital and West Virginia University Hospitals in Morgantown.

The AARP is among the premier advocacy groups for adults over 50. The award in question was quite competitive: the AARP received over 145 applicants from across the Nation. Only 50 winners were chosen, including the three West Virginia hospitals. Criteria used for selecting the winning employers included employee development opportunities, health benefits for employees and retirees, age of employer's workforce, alternative work arrangements, and retirement benefits. Nineteen percent of West Virginians age 65 and older are still in the work force.

These institutions have a proven track record, of accomplishment. Over the years they have proven their commitment to both their patients and employees alike. St. Mary's received the award for the third year and West Virginia University Hospitals were recognized

for the second year. We in the Mountain State take pride in all our citizens. We are all thankful for the exemplary institutions that give individuals an opportunity to showcase their talents and I am very pleased that AARP has recognized West Virginia's role in what is the best healthcare in the world.

THANKING LYDIA BROWN FOR HER SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of her retirement in September 2005, we rise to thank Lydia R. Brown for 21 years of outstanding service to the United States House of Representatives.

Lydia started in 1984 as an administrative assistant in the Office of Telecommunications under the Clerk of the House. Her fearless initiative and hard work allowed her responsibilities to expand to include paying district telephone bills. In 1997, Lydia transferred to the House Information Resources division of the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer. She became an inventory management specialist for HIR, performing a wide range of duties that included receiving equipment and supplies for HIR, requesting furniture and repairs, assisting with payment processing, ordering and distributing water for five locations in the Ford Building, and inventorying equipment. Lydia maintained the property records for HIR meticulously, bar coding all new equipment and ensuring that old equipment was disposed of properly. Lydia was an energetic worker for HIR who was willing to perform a variety of tasks.

In 2002, Lydia transferred to House Support Services under the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, working for the Vendor Management division. Lydia's assignments included the payment of purchase orders for equipment, supplies, and furniture for Members, Committees, Officers, and Support offices of the House of Representatives. She made the transition from HIR inventory specialist to Vendor Management counselor swiftly and successfully. Lydia's energy, conscientiousness, and knowledge of the policies and procedures enabled her to be an industrious worker, providing passionate customer service for the House community. During the October 2001 anthrax incident, as Members and staff were relocated to an off-site location, Lydia worked tirelessly to coordinate and ensure delivery of equipment and supplies to House offices at the alternate location. Lydia has worked since she was 14 years old; she served her country in the Army reserves, and she also obtained degrees in Accounting and Business Administration. In her long career, Lydia has frequently gone above and beyond the call of duty. Today we commend her dedication, initiative, and hard work, and wish her many happy years of retirement.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE APPRO-
PRIATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT,
FISCAL YEARS 2006 THROUGH
2009

SPEECH OF

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3402) to authorize appropriations for the Department of Justice for fiscal years 2006 through 2009, and for other purposes:

Ms. HART. Mr. Chairman, in 1994, Congress took a significant step forward in the fight against domestic violence by enacting the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). Today, as part of the DOJ reauthorization, we are considering the reauthorization of VAWA (VAWA 2005), making it a stronger and more effective tool in the struggle to end domestic violence.

I have met with many of the domestic violence shelters and advocates in my district who tell me that VAWA is working. Victim Outreach Intervention Center provides services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and other violent crimes. On an average year, VOICE provides services to over 3,000 people in Butler County.

The VAWA funding they receive has made a tremendous improvement in both the types of services they provide and also to the scale on which they are able to serve. Their counseling and advocacy services are substantially funded by VAWA. Without this money, VOICE would be unable to serve survivors at current levels; a waiting list for direct services, which could contain 20–25 survivors at a time, would have to be established.

In order to provide that basic level of service, VOICE would have to substantially decrease or eliminate programs, such as their Prevention/Education programming. Without the re-authorization of VAWA, the past 28 years of progress they have made in service to survivors would be set back tenfold.

Nearly one in four women experiences at least one physical assault by a partner during adulthood. As resources become stronger, more victims gain the courage to seek help. Now is not the time to retreat. The work at the state and local level has become more, not less, complex.

The programs and provisions of VAWA will continue the progress made over the past 10 years in three ways.

First, VAWA 2005 reinforces existing core programs like the STOP grants which have brought communities together to solve the problem of domestic violence. VAWA programs have provided training for hundreds of law enforcement officers on the dynamics of domestic violence and VAWA 2005 will attempt to solve the problem attrition among domestic violence professionals.

Second, with VAWA 2005 we ensure that the needs of uniquely vulnerable communities are met. One of the lessons we have learned over the past 10 years is that many victims face unique obstacles.

VAWA has helped fund specialized services to improve victim safety in rural areas, such as paying for "attorneys on wheels" to help rural

women get to court or effective outreach programs in remote communities.

VAWA 2005 also addresses the unique challenges faced by persons with disabilities and elder victims of abuse, by offering services tailored to their circumstances and by educating their communities on how to best provide services.

Third, VAWA 2005 provides greater opportunities for victims to rebuild their lives. While domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking are fundamentally criminal justice problems, the solutions are not to be found in the criminal justice system alone.

VAWA 2005 will help victims rebuild their lives and create long term security for themselves and their children. It works to educate domestic violence prevention professionals, child welfare workers, and home visitors on how to identify and serve victims of domestic violence. Further, it provides guidance on preventing violence, rather than reacting to it.

We've come a long way since 1994, but people from my district tell me that our shelters are full and our hotlines are ringing off the hook. We need to continue with our mission to end violence against women and children. VAWA 2005 is an important step in that mission.

PASS THE CORPORATE PATRIOT
ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2005

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, today marks the third time in as many Congresses that I have introduced the Corporate Patriot Enforcement Act. This legislation is designed to slam the door shut on a truly disgraceful corporate tax shelter.

Over the years, dozens of American companies have filed papers to trade in their U.S. corporate citizenship for citizenship in tax haven countries like Bermuda. By washing their hands of their U.S. citizenship, they are able to stop paying taxes on their foreign profits, draining more than \$4 billion out of U.S. coffers.

The companies themselves don't move physically—their operations, their factories, and their workforce remain wherever they were before. They continue to earn their profits in this country. They've simply discovered a technicality that they can exploit to rid themselves of their fair share of taxes, leaving the rest of us to pay for the services that they consume.

Right now, we're struggling to fight two wars and rebuild a hurricane-ravaged gulf coast, on the heels of five enormous tax cuts. The rainy day has come, but we've spent the rainy day fund. Our Nation has never been deeper in debt. We need to take a sober look at our Nation's finances, and this is an excellent place to start.

Eventually all of us will have to sacrifice a little to pull our Nation through this time; we've done it before and we'll have to do it again. When the rest of the country is contemplating additional sacrifices, it's only fair to require that these wealthy corporations start to meet the responsibilities that they have so far succeeded at shirking.

I am proud to sponsor the Corporate Patriot Enforcement Act, and I would urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

IN MEMORY OF RAY R.
POLIAKOFF

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Ray R. Poliakoff, a wonderful man and a friend to the community of Denton, Texas. Mr. Poliakoff passed away on Saturday, September 2, 2005 at Baylor Regional Medical in Plano. Ray was 86.

Ray R. Poliakoff was born March 12, 1919 and spent his life serving our country, committing his life to continuing education and working vigorously. He was a member of the United States Army in a Reconnaissance Intelligence Unit in Europe during World War II and was twice wounded in battle. After the war, he graduated from Indiana University with bachelor of law and doctor of jurisprudence degrees. He also received a Master of Arts degree in humanities from the University of Evansville, Indiana.

Throughout the years, Ray was very active in oil, gas and coal exploration and development. He held various executive positions in Northern Illinois Coal Corporation, Sentry Royalty Company, Sinclair Coal Company, Peabody Coal Company, AMAX Coal Company, Data Tech Corporation, and even independently produced oil for 12 years. During the period of 1949 to 1989, he also worked with various national and international concerns and individuals in coal, oil and gas, and other natural resource ventures and concessions in the U.S., Alaska, Canada, Europe, Australia, the Middle East and the Far East. Even though Ray retired in 1984 and in 1988 went on inactive status as an Indiana attorney in good standing, he remained a long-standing member of the American Bar Association and was, until recently, a member of the ABA Section on Natural Resources, Energy, and Environmental Law; Science and Technology; and Individual Rights and Responsibilities.

Today, I would like to recognize and celebrate Mr. Poliakoff's life. He was intelligent, thoughtful and a true American. Ray leaves behind his lovely wife, Dr. Ann Stuart, Chancellor of Texas Woman's University in Denton, his children and grandchildren. They are all in my thoughts and prayers. Ray will be deeply missed by his family and the community of North Texas.

ROCKVILLE MARYLAND'S
COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rockville, Maryland's Communications Team for its recent award in recognition of excellence in government programming.

The Rockville Channel, TRC 11, was recognized in 5 different categories at the awards banquet of the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors. The Rockville Channel consistently produces outstanding programming for the Rockville area and has often been recognized for excellence over the last 11 years.

I am also pleased that the City's Divisions of Graphics and Printing and Public Information recently combined to win two national awards at the City-County Communications and Marketing Association Conference in Atlanta. The Rockville Communications Teams provide a valuable public service and play a key role in my congressional district in keeping the public informed.

I applaud all members of the Rockville Communications Team for their outstanding efforts.

**HOUSTON POLICE OFFICER
MUZAFFAR SIDDIQI**

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, on October 1, 2005, the National Association of Police Organizations will honor law enforcement agencies and officers at the 12th Annual Top Cops Awards Ceremony here in Washington, DC. Officer Muzaffar Siddiqi of the Houston Police Department, a great man whom I have the privilege of knowing personally, is receiving an award at this prestigious event, and I join the city of Houston and all Texans in honoring this outstanding achievement.

As a former prosecutor and criminal court judge in Houston, TX, I have had a long-standing relationship with the Houston Police Department. I have witnessed many great works by police officers in Houston and the surrounding communities, and I can say without hesitation that Officer Siddiqi's record of service is exemplary. Having previously been named Houston Police Department Officer of the Year, Officer Siddiqi has received high honors throughout his career. His service has been recognized at all levels: city, State and Federal.

Before working for the Houston Police Department, Officer Siddiqi served as a police officer in Karachi, Pakistan. Since joining HPD, he has been a great asset in building positive relationships between law enforcement and Houston's South Asian and Middle Eastern communities. His work has been invaluable, and the people of Houston are fortunate to have a public servant of his caliber in uniform. As he honors the city of Houston with his service, Mr. Speaker, we must honor the selfless work of Officer Muzaffar Siddiqi.

**JEAN D. MATHIS RETIREMENT:
SEPTEMBER 30, 2005**

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the retirement of Jean D. Mathis whose contributions to the United States Drug

Enforcement Administration have been unparalleled.

Ms. Mathis was born on March 3, 1950 in Washington, DC. She attended DC public schools (Anthony Bowen Elementary, Randall Junior High and Dunbar High) and graduated from Howard University in 1972.

Ms. Mathis worked throughout her junior high, high school and college years and was introduced at an early age to work in government service.

Immediately following her graduation from college, she began her first full-time employment in the Federal Service with the District of Columbia Department of Corrections, where she worked until 1975. In October 1975, she began her employment with the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Ms. Mathis distinguished herself from the beginning and quickly advanced through the ranks of the Operational Support Division. In 1990, Ms. Mathis was appointed as the Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Office of Personnel, becoming one of the first two women to enter DEA's Senior Executive Service (SES) and the first African-American woman promoted to the rank of SES. In 1994, Ms. Mathis was promoted to Assistant Administrator for Human Resources becoming DEA's first female Assistant Administrator.

Ms. Mathis' stellar career is marked by numerous exemplary achievements. Under her direction, the DEA instituted validated testing for senior law enforcement personnel, drug testing for employees and applicants, and psychological testing for Special Agents. In 1999, she played a vital leadership role in the opening of DEA's state of the art training facility in Quantico, Virginia. Ms. Mathis is a long-standing member of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE), and served as a member of the Training and Education Committee. She also chaired this committee for 2 years.

Ms. Mathis' outstanding work ethic and diligence have been recognized with a plethora of awards and commendations over the years. Moreover, her DEA accomplishments have been recognized government-wide as she distinguished herself and the DEA as a two-time recipient of the Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Performance in 1995 and 2001.

Over the years, Ms. Mathis has participated in extensive training programs including Management Training at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, University of Southern California and is a 2003 Brookings Fellow. It was as a Brookings Fellow that Jean came to work in my office and I received the benefit of her experience and wisdom. I have been actively engaged in the problems associated with illegal narcotics throughout my congressional career and have been aware of the role of the Drug Enforcement Administration in the implementation of our national anti-narcotics policies. Yet Jean Mathis taught me a great deal and enhanced my understanding and appreciation of the complexities of addressing the challenges of narcotics addiction and control. She performed superbly as my Congressional staff assistant and I regretted her return to the DEA.

In summary, the essence of Ms. Mathis' career was captured in a number of performance award justifications over the years including several DEA Administrators for whom she worked directly. Among them was former DEA Administrator Thomas A. Constantine who

stated, "Ms. Mathis leads by example, demanding high ethical standards and conscientious work. Her outstanding work ethic and diligence inspire and challenge her staff." Ms. Mathis has inspired all of those who were fortunate enough to work for or with her. Ms. Mathis' tenacious spirit and pursuit of excellence will be missed at DEA but will continue to inspire those who engage her throughout her retirement and personal endeavors.

**CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
J. GEORGE MITNICK**

HON. ARTUR DAVIS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. DAVIS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer a tribute to Mr. J. George Mitnick.

Jasper, Alabama was not George Mitnick's first home—he was a Connecticut Yankee who migrated south—but Jasper was where George made his fortune and found his wife. Jasper is also a city that he shaped for over 5 decades: his footprints include the presidency of the local Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club; the Mitnick Wilderness Boot Camp for troubled teenagers; and of course, his role in founding Top Dollar, a retail chain of over 250 stores in 11 states.

George Mitnick helped make modern Jasper, but what made George Mitnick, above all, was the days he spent as an army captain helping to liberate Nazis death camps. George was a committed Jew before he entered those camps, but the degradation that he saw there alerted him to an existential threat to his people, and to the capacity of humans to violate each other.

Those camps never left George Mitnick's soul. They made him a vigilant defender of Israel's future and of American politicians who understood how essential Israel's future was to any vision of a just world. The death camps made him an activist—and I am honored that his activism led him to embrace my candidacy against a foe of Israel's aspirations. George was honored and humbled that his activism also made him AIPAC's "Man of the Year" in 2003.

I think that those awful, wretched camps also made George understand his adopted home better. George lived in Alabama during the years when the racial cauldron was boiling, and Alabama's ill temper on race was one of the aspects of his new state that he most disdained. He was a quiet, but real, force for integration in Jasper. George also raised a daughter who raised a daughter who married a black man. His grandson-in-law James, an African American, was one of George's pallbearers, and it is a measure of the Jasper that George help make that virtually no one stared at James' role. George's friends knew that tolerance was a Mitnick family value.

On August 6, 2005, J. George Mitnick died at the age of 87. I thank George for his faith and his life and for the promises he kept. I hope that my tenure in Congress will honor the world and the state he wanted to build. May the God of Abraham bless George Mitnick and his surviving wife Willene.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF WALLACE BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of Wallace Baptist Church in my district. Through several locations and many pastors, the church has continuously provided a place of worship for the people of northwest Florida.

Originally founded as the New Smyrna Baptist Church, a small congregation first met in Bagdad, Florida, in 1905. For nearly 40 years, the church met in that location, constantly adding new members to their congregation and establishing a reputation as a house where all were welcome.

The original 40 years added many people to the original congregation, and recognizing the need for more land, a group of 32 people in 1942 began meeting a short distance away in the Wallace Schoolhouse. The land had been donated to them by a local family interested in seeing the local community prosper. Less than a year later, the church had its own building constructed and continued to use the pulpit from their first building. The pulpit still exists to this day, though it is no longer used. In addition, wood from the original building was used for construction of the new podium, instilling a physical sense of tradition that the church carries with it as it continues into the future.

Approximately 20 years later, now under the name of Wallace Baptist Church, a larger auditorium was constructed to accommodate the increasing size of the church's membership. The previous building, adjacent to the auditorium, remained in use as a meeting place for Sunday School. A few years later, recognizing their long-term stability and consistent growth both in congregation size as well as services offered, the church voted to incorporate as Wallace Baptist Church.

The church continued to add facilities over the next several decades as it continued to flourish, so I much so that in 2003 the more than 300 members of the church saw the pressing need for a larger main sanctuary and voted to have one built. The groundbreaking on the new site occurred earlier this year. Under the present leadership of Rev. Lee Botts and having already shown consistent growth, I am confident that the church and its mission will continue to be recognized by many as a great place to worship, continuing to serve the community well into the future.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the U.S. Congress, I am proud of the success of Wallace Baptist Church over the last 100 years and look forward to its next century of service.

RECOGNIZING 94TH CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL DAY IN REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 94th celebration of National Day in the Republic of China (Taiwan).

Today, I join with the Taiwanese people as they celebrate their freedom. Taiwan has peacefully overcome authoritarian rule to attain democracy. It will hopefully constitute a model for the eventual establishment of a genuine democracy in China. The U.S. and Taiwan value human rights, civil liberties, a free press and the rule of law. Our shared values have produced a strong and dependable friendship for over 50 years. Today, the people of Taiwan determine their own destiny and government through free and fair elections.

Many of my colleagues will be surprised to learn that Taiwan is our 8th largest trading partner. A recent survey by the World Economic Forum ranked Taiwan fifth in the world and first in Asia for growth competitiveness. The Taiwanese have been increasing their demands for American goods becoming a more valuable trading partner. The Taiwanese people have also achieved economic prosperity with one of the highest standards of living in the world. It is impressive to find that less than 1 percent of the population lives below the poverty line. Now a strong member of the World Trade Organization, Taiwan's market-based economy is now the 12th largest in the world.

The government of Taiwan was one of the first to come to our aid after the events of September 11th and Hurricane Katrina. Taiwan continues to be our ally in the war on terrorism by cooperating with humanitarian assistance in Iraq and Afghanistan and providing intelligence. They have shown generosity and compassion by contributing to the Twin Towers Fund and Pentagon Memorial Fund, and now to the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

I hope that its neighbors, especially those in China, will notice Taiwan's celebration of freedom, democracy, and a market economy. I hope Taiwan and China will work together and cultivate a future based on respect, democracy, and freedom. I am encouraged by reports that Taiwan's President, Chen Shui-bian is willing to hold a summit with President Hu Jintao and resume dialog on cross-strait issues.

It is with great pleasure I congratulate Taiwan, our friend and ally, on the celebration of their 94th National Day, October 10, 2005.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from votes in the House on Tuesday, September 27th, due to a previous and unavoidable commitment. Therefore, I was unable to vote on H.J. Res. 66, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of "Lights On After-school!", a national celebration of after-school programs (rollcall No. 494); and H. Con. Res. 209, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Domestic Violence Awareness Month (rollcall No. 496). Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on both these measures considered by the House.

HONORING CAPTAIN RUSS KELLER, UNITED STATES NAVY

HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Captain Russ Keller, United States Navy, as he retires upon completion of more than 26 years of honorable and faithful service to our nation.

A native of Pittsburgh, PA, Captain Keller was appointed to the United States Naval Academy in 1975 and graduated with the class of 1979. Following initial nuclear power and submarine training, he reported to his first submarine, USS *Trepang* (SSN 674), where he served as the reactor controls assistant and later as the weapons officer. His assignment on *Trepang* was followed by a shore assignment in the Pentagon as flag lieutenant and aide for the Navy's Director of Research, Development, Test and Evaluation. Captain Keller next attended Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, where he earned a masters in public administration degree. Following his tour at Harvard, he returned to sea as the Navigator on board USS *Simon Bolivar* (SSBN 641) (BLUE), where he completed five strategic deterrent patrols in the final days of the Cold War. Upon departing *Simon Bolivar*, Captain Keller remained at sea as the executive officer on board USS *Narwhal* (SSN 671), where he prepared the ship's crew to return to sea following a 37-month refueling overhaul. Following his tour as Executive Officer, Captain Keller was assigned to the Navy Staff in Washington, DC where he served in the strategy and concepts branch. In June 1995 Captain Keller received the most coveted and demanding of all naval assignments when he was selected for Command at Sea. He served as the Commanding Officer of USS *Springfield* (SSN 761) for 31 months, during which time the ship completed several independent submarine missions vital to national security.

Based on his successful command tour, Captain Keller was selected by the Navy's Chief of Legislative Affairs to serve in the Office of Legislative Affairs, where he was assigned initially as the submarine and strategic programs liaison officer. Following two years working these issues, he was promoted internally and assigned as the Director of Naval Programs, with responsibilities for all Navy procurement, operations and maintenance, and research and development programs. His tenure in the Office of Legislative Affairs spanned five defense authorization bill cycles and earned him the trust and respect of members of Congress, committee and personal staff members as well as senior officials in the Department of the Navy. A role model and mentor to those who worked for and with him, he made his impact on people as well as programs. Through his brilliant insight and dedication, he contributed directly to the future readiness of the United States Navy and the nation.

In September 2002 Captain Keller was selected for major command, and served his final tour on active duty as the Commanding Officer of the Naval Nuclear Power Training Command in Charleston, SC from July 2003 until July 2005. Under his supervision, thousands of future naval nuclear operators and

supervisors completed the most rigorous academic training program in our military while being imbued with the highest standards of personal integrity and reliability.

Captain Keller's distinguished awards include the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal and numerous unit and campaign awards.

The Department of the Navy, the Congress, and the American people have been defended and well served by this dedicated Naval Officer for more than 26 years. Captain Russ Keller long will be remembered for his leadership, service and dedication. He will be missed.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have Russ and Chris Keller as constituents. I ask my colleagues in the 109th Congress to join me in congratulating him and wishing him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF DEMOCRACY IN AZERBAIJAN

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I wish to include in the RECORD an article by Azerbaijan Ambassador to the United States Hafiz Pashayev. This was published in The Washington Times on September 11, 2005 and is a great testament to the progress made in Azerbaijan toward holding peaceful and fair elections.

In a recent visit to Azerbaijan as National Democratic Institute chairman, former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said, "Election day is important, but the months leading up to the elections are also crucial."

She referred to the parliamentary elections to be held Nov. 6, when the citizens of Azerbaijan go to the polls to elect their representatives to parliament, or Milli Mejlis.

The Bush administration views these elections as a litmus test of the Azerbaijan government's commitment to democracy. The U.S. Congress has weighed in by passing a resolution calling on Azerbaijan "to hold orderly, peaceful, and free and fair elections in November 2005 in order to ensure the long-term growth and stability of the country."

We are the first to recognize that independence, stability and prosperity depend on successful democratic reform. President Iham Aliyev wants an orderly transition, as our last few years of unprecedented economic growth would be jeopardized by political instability. Toward this end and to conduct elections according to international standards, the president issued an Executive Order outlining steps to be taken:

1. Allowing all political parties to organize rallies free from violence and intimidation.
2. Welcoming domestic and international election observers.
3. Providing access to media, thus ensuring fair coverage.
4. And ensuring central and regional authorities create the necessary conditions for exit polls.

Among many provisions of the Order already carried out are those that concern participation in the political arena by opposi-

tion parties. There has been dialogue between ruling and opposition parties, all opposition parties may freely conduct rallies and demonstrations and, thus far, all opposition activists—including those who called for overthrow of government in October 2003—have been allowed to become candidates if they wish. During his visit to Azerbaijan at the end of August, Sen. Richard Lugar, Indiana Republican, said: "The opposition leaders underlined that the registration process of the MP candidates went well, which is a step forward compared to the previous elections." President Aliyev went further by warning all regional election officials not to interfere in the old Soviet fashion, when ballot-stuffing was common.

President Aliyev's insistence on free and fair elections in November is based on the idea Azerbaijan's secular government can co-exist with its Muslim traditions.

Our vision is premised on the belief democratic pluralism will ensure, a peaceful outlet for dissent, eliminating the need for violent alternatives. Citizens of all ethnicities and political persuasions are free to advocate their positions peacefully.

Today, Azerbaijan is a vibrant, independent state. We have faced many challenges in our young country's life: preserving our independence in a tough neighborhood; making the transition from a shattered to a market economy; building government institutions and an independent judiciary; finding a peaceful solution to our conflict with Armenia; and developing our natural resources to world markets.

Throughout these difficult years, the United States has been a friend and ally of Azerbaijan. Our strategic partnership has blossomed since the attacks on America on September 11, 2001. Immediately after, the late President Heydar Aliyev visited the U.S. Embassy in Baku not only to express his condolences but to offer his full support. Today, we stand side-by-side in the global war on terrorism. Our troops proudly serve in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Azerbaijan's location between Russia, Iran and Turkey, coupled with our desire to integrate into the Euro-Atlantic community, requires that we conduct a balanced foreign policy fostering development of democratic institutions and a strong economy. Azerbaijan has come this far without tangible foreign aid and expects to continue democratic and economic development, primarily through its own resources.

According to a recent survey by the International Republican Institute sponsored by USAID, an overwhelming majority of Azerbaijanis want economic and social development to be their government's priority concerns.

This November, the people of Azerbaijan will elect a Parliament I believe will accelerate our transition toward democratic pluralism to match the country's unprecedented economic growth. Mr. Lugar told the press in Baku: "I sense in Azerbaijan a yearning for building strong democratic institutions."

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF EMILY QUINN MUSTIAN

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today, I am happy to congratulate Rebecca

and Ben Mustian of Columbia, South Carolina, on the birth of their beautiful baby girl. Emily Quinn Mustian was born on September 29, 2005 at 12:01 PM, weighing 7 pounds, 4 ounces and measuring 19 inches long. Emily has been born into a loving home, where she will be raised by parents who are devoted to her well-being and bright future. Her birth is a blessing.

TRIBUTE TO SOUTH LYNCHES FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the South Lynchies Fire Department and to recognize their 50 years of service to the South Carolina counties of Florence and Williamsburg. Chartered as the Lake City Rural Fire Department on January 27, 1955, they started with only one tanker. Today, they have 19 vehicles with which a full time staff and 125 volunteers provide fire and rescue services to the 250 square mile area that encompasses the South Lynchies Fire District.

The original directors of the department in 1955 were S. Keels Brockington, Sr., H. Raymond Askins, Sr., Roy Rogers, J.P. Grimsley, L.W. McDaniel, Joe Tucker, and Walter Moody. Within 10 years, the department had completed a permanent home and secured a second tanker. The department changed its name in the middle 1970s to the Lower Florence County Fire Department as it had expanded its coverage beyond the Lake City area. In 1982, residents created the South Lynchies Fire District establishing the area that the department currently services.

The South Lynchies Fire Department today operates out of six locations within the district. The original station, in Lake City, is still operational. Station 2 "Coward" was built in 1971. Station 3 "Camp Branch" was built in 1979, Station 4 "Cades" in 1979, Station 5 "Leo-Camerontown" in 1979, and Station 6 "Scranton" in 1990.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me today in honoring the South Lynchies Fire Department as they celebrate their 50th anniversary. I thank each and every member of the Department for their service over the last 50 years and wish them great success and Godspeed in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, on September 28, 2005, I was absent for two votes because I was chairing a classified briefing with the Secretary of Defense providing information to members about U.S. efforts in Iraq. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 500, on motion to recommit and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 501 on passage.

**A VALUABLE SERVICE FROM
BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD OF
SOUTH CAROLINA**

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to announce that BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina, BCBSSC, ably led by President Ed Sellers, is now offering a valuable service in doctors' offices throughout our State.

Recently, The Wall Street Journal reported that BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina has begun to offer physician offices a swipe-card reader that will immediately inform members "how much the insurer will pay and what the patient owes."

Physicians can lease the swipe-card readers from Companion Technologies, a subsidiary of BCBSSC; the health insurer plans to send members a card that they can swipe through the readers, which will connect to the BCBSSC system through a broadband Internet line. The swipe-card readers will have the ability to process debit and credit card payments and provide information about eligibility and claims information.

Companion officials said they hope other health insurers will integrate the swipecard readers into their systems. Companion President Harvey Galloway said, "Many doctors lose significant dollars because patients don't treat doctor's office payments like they do their Visa bills." He added, "The advantage to the doctor's office is knowing, while they have the patient in front of them, how much the patient liability is, and not having to go after them after they leave the office."

I am hopeful that this new benefit will prove to be helpful to patients and physicians throughout South Carolina.

**THE MAUDELLE SHIREK POST
OFFICE BUILDING**

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to make a few comments about H.R. 438.

In the House we routinely name Federal post offices after notable Americans. In fact, last year I responded to a request from numerous constituents to name the post office in Dunn, NC after the late General William C. Lee.

The bill on the floor today, H.R. 438, would rename the post office at 2000 Allston Way in Berkeley, California after Ms. Maudelle Shirek. I am concerned about the lack of committee review over this bill, as H.R. 438 was not heard or marked up by the Government Reform Committee. It is the responsibility of the committee of jurisdiction to review the qualifications of the individual being honored and to determine if he or she should be a candidate for Federal recognition.

Despite my reservations about the review process for H.R. 438, I will vote for this legis-

lation as a matter of routine congressional courtesy and respect for the bill's sponsor Congresswoman BARBARA LEE and her constituents.

**SERVICEMEMBERS' GROUP LIFE
INSURANCE ENHANCEMENT ACT
OF 2005**

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge support for the bill that is before us, H.R. 3200, the "Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Enhancement Act" of 2005, a bill that I have cosponsored.

This bill will increase federally subsidized life insurance for military personnel to \$400,000, and that increase will be permanent.

If one of our Nation's finest men and women is killed in the line of duty, it is our Nation's obligation to provide an insurance policy that can assist the family in meeting expenses. These changes make the insurance more in line with today's economy, and I support the passage of H.R. 3200.

There are a few other insurance changes, beyond H.R. 3200, that I believe are also the right steps to take. These changes would, first of all, affect the Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance, SDVI.

When this insurance began in 1951, the premiums were based on the 1940 mortality rate. Current standard life insurance policies have premiums based on the 2001 mortality rate—except for the SDVI, which still charges premiums based on a table that is 60 years out of date. This results in higher premiums, premiums that can be as much as 3 times what veterans should be paying.

The Independent Budget, prepared and endorsed by many Veterans' Service Organizations, has recommended that the mortality table be updated. I have introduced a bill, H.R. 2747, the "Disabled Veterans Life Insurance Enhancement Act", that would make this important change and decrease this premium payment for disabled veterans.

A second part of H.R. 2747 affects the mortgage life insurance for severely service-disabled veterans (VMLI). Currently, this insurance covers only about 55 percent of the outstanding mortgage balance. We know how the cost of houses has skyrocketed in many areas of our country. In May, 2001, an evaluation by the Department of Veterans Affairs recommended increased coverage. H.R. 2747 implements those recommendations by increasing the maximum which would be expected to cover 94 percent of mortgage balances.

Let us begin to update and fix the insurance for our service members and our veterans by passing H.R. 3200. And I also encourage my colleagues to cosponsor my insurance bill, H.R. 2747, which expands what we are doing here today to additional insurance provisions and programs.

**INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO PROVIDE EQUITY FOR GRAND
CANYON SUBCONTRACTORS**

HON. RICK RENZI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation, with Congressman PASTOR and Congressman HAYWORTH, to authorize the National Park Service to pay for services performed by subcontractors under a contract issued for work completed at the Grand Canyon National Park.

In fiscal years 2002 and 2003, the Grand Canyon National Park issued approximately 43 task orders to Pacific General, Inc. (PGI), under an Indefinite Deliver/Indefinite Quantity contract. The value of these task orders was more than \$17 million for several construction projects throughout the Park.

According to invoices sent to the Park, PGI certified that payments were being sent to subcontractors and suppliers. However, in January 2004, complaints were received by numerous subcontractors that they had not received payment from PGI. The National Park Service paid more than \$10 million to PGI. Of this amount, PGI did not pay \$1.3 million to subcontractors who performed the work.

The Washington Contracting and Procurement Office of the National Park Service performed an acquisition management review. In this review, the National Park Service it was discovered that the Park had failed to ensure that PGI obtained the necessary payment and performance bonds required by the National Park Service and required under the Miller Act (40 D.S.C. 270a).

On February 6, 2004, the National Park Service suspended further payment to PGI and issued a suspension notice to cease activity by the contractor. PGI has ceased business and it is unlikely that the Federal Government will recover the \$1.3 million issued to PGI.

The subcontractors who were not paid by PGI fall into two categories. The first category consists of those subcontractors that performed work on various projects where the National Park Service had already paid PGI for the work. The second category of subcontractor is composed of subcontractors who performed work on various projects where the National Park Service had not paid PGI for the work. The National Park Service has withheld \$906,335 in payment for this work that will be paid to the second category of subcontractors that performed work.

The National Park Service has been unable to pay the first category of subcontractors who performed work in the Grand Canyon National Park because contract law prohibits payment directly to subcontractors due to the lack of a direct, contractual relationship between the parties.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation authorizes the National Park Service to pay the \$1.3 million to subcontractors who have performed work at Grand Canyon National Park and were not paid by PGI. This legislation only addresses this situation in the Grand Canyon National Park and the \$1.3 million that the Park paid to PGI for work performed by the subcontractors.

Many small businesses in Arizona, Utah and Washington, have been affected by this unfortunate contract mismanagement. This legislation will fix a grave inequity for many of our

small businesses and ensure that these companies are paid for work already performed in the Grand Canyon National Park.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF BLANCA ALVARADO

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the achievements of Santa Clara County Supervisor Blanca Alvarado. She continues to be a leader in local government and a national leader in the area of juvenile detention reform.

Blanca served 14 years as a San José City Councilmember representing San José's East Side before being appointed to the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors in 1995, filling the position I vacated when I was elected to Congress. I heartily recommended her appointment and have supported her in her good works ever since.

The daughter of a miner, Blanca has always been involved in public life, whether it was helping her parents in union and political activities, hosting a women's radio show called "Merienda musical," working for the Department of Social Services or acting as the local president of MAPA, the Mexican American Political Association.

I first met Blanca in the mid-1970's when we served together on the Housing Service Center board of directors before either of us had stood for public office. I found her then to be a caring person committed to her community and especially to the needs of the poor. Those qualities have continued throughout her life—both in her public and private efforts.

As a City Councilmember and Vice-Mayor, Blanca actively worked to build neighborhood organizations and developed community plans and partnerships to renovate impoverished neighborhoods.

Blanca's devotion to children is illustrated through projects such as the The East Initiative. The Initiative recognizes the importance of securing early access to parent support, health care, and social services for all children and their families. Blanca, as a member of the First Five Commission, lobbied for a school readiness program in the local school district. When the school district was not in a position to join with First Five in creating a school readiness program, the Commission partnered with the community and focused on the neighborhoods surrounding Cesar Chavez, San Antonio, and Arbuckle elementary schools. First Five allocated \$750,000 in the first year of the East Initiative alone.

Blanca also leads the county-wide effort to eliminate inappropriate and unnecessary incarceration of youth, especially youth of color who are over-represented in the juvenile justice system. Because of her efforts, the county has become a national model in juvenile detention reform. Since the movement began in July 2002, law enforcement, the Probation Department, the Juvenile Court, community partners, and many other participants have committed to shifting their efforts from incarceration to community-based approaches for

treating troubled youth, to allow troubled young people to turn their lives around and to have productive, hopeful futures.

One of the projects Blanca is most remembered for is her leadership in the conception—and development of the Mexican Heritage Plaza, opened in 1999 and now one of the largest Latino cultural centers in the Nation. Twelve years in the making, and built over a site once picketed by San José native son Cesar Chavez, the Plaza is a 55,000 square-foot cultural center with state of the art theatrical venues, a Smithsonian-affiliate gallery space and luscious thematic gardens that serve as a regional resource for cultural programming and education.

In addition to her years of friendship, I wish to thank Blanca Alvarado for a lifetime of public service and her determined efforts to achieve social change. "¡Sí se puede!"

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF CITIZENS BANK IN HARTSVILLE

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 100th year of existence of the Citizens Bank located in Hartsville, Tennessee. The bank will celebrate its anniversary on October 1, 2005.

Citizens Bank was established in 1905 with \$10,000 in capital. The bank's loan officers had a maximum loan authority of \$300, enough to buy a small farm 100 years ago. They started keeping daily statements in 1923.

Citizens Bank never succumbed to the Great Depression; however, the bank did close twice during its century of history—once during the flood of 1927 and again during a storm in 1929 that left 18 inches of snow on the ground.

Originally, the bank rented space in downtown Hartsville, before building its own space by the Trousdale County Courthouse. In 1984, the bank built its current facility on Highway 25.

I wish President Wilson Taylor, Vice President Betty Sue Hibdon, Customer Representative and Public Relations Coordinator Gloria Dalton and all the employees who represent the heart of Citizens Bank much success with their celebration and the start of another century of service.

HONORING SERGEANT PAUL KARPOWICH OF FREELAND, PENNSYLVANIA, WHO WAS KILLED IN IRAQ IN DECEMBER 2004

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the life of Sergeant Paul Karpowich, of Freeland, Pennsylvania, who was killed in action in Iraq in December 2004.

Sgt. Karpowich was 30 years old when he suffered the loss of his life while trying to liberate the Iraqi people and afford them the same opportunities we enjoy in a land ruled by democracy.

The victim of a suicide bomber whose treachery claimed the lives of 20 people, Sgt. Karpowich was one of 15 military personnel who were killed. The remaining five victims were civilian employees of Department of Defense contractors.

Sgt. Karpowich was remembered by many as a "soldier's soldier." He joined the U.S. Army immediately after graduating from Bishop Hafey High School. He completed basic training at Fort Benning, GA and then went on to Fort Bragg, NC, where he graduated from paratrooper school, after which he joined the 82nd Airborne Division.

Sgt. Karpowich served as a drill instructor with the 98th Division's 1st Battalion, 417th Regiment, 1st Brigade.

He had recently been notified that he was about to be promoted to Master Sergeant, the second highest enlisted rank in the Army, when the bomb blast ripped through a mess tent in a forward operating base at Mosul, Iraq, where Sgt. Karpowich and hundreds of others were gathered.

The first Hazleton area resident to give his life in the Iraq War, Sgt. Karpowich's awards and decorations included the Army Commendation Medal, the Expert Infantryman's Badge, the Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and the Global War on Terror Medal.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to the life of a true American patriot whose courage and bravery transcended human frailty and shone like a beacon to inspire others.

Sgt. Karpowich well understood the importance of those objectives and willingly put his life in harm's way to help others enjoy the same liberties as we do. The world is a better place today because of the sacrifices made by Sgt. Karpowich and others like him.

ACKNOWLEDGING SANTA CLARA COUNTY ON ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO HURRICANE KATRINA RELIEF EFFORTS

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge those in Santa Clara County, California who have offered assistance to the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Their efforts stand as a testament to the American spirit of generosity.

The local governments of Santa Clara County have responded with munificent offerings to the victims of Hurricane Katrina. The San José City Council and Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors each authorized \$500,000 for the Santa Clara Valley American Red Cross to provide services to hurricane victims who arrive in the area. The San José Fire Department deployed firefighters to assist in the region devastated by Hurricane Katrina and stand ready as needed.

Local universities opened their academies and housing to those displaced by the hurricane. In fact, Santa Clara University admitted 75 students from New Orleans-based institutions Loyola University and Tulane University

after the hurricane forced the campuses to close. The San José Recovery Center is providing interim shelter and services for evacuees at a former student housing complex at San José State University. So far, the Center has served sixty-six people.

The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority responded as well by providing free bus passes to individuals and families, assuring mobility to access the medical services, education, and jobs.

United by the Santa Clara County CADRE (Collaborating Agencies Disaster Relief Efforts), many local community organizations have provided ongoing evacuee support. The Volunteer Center of Silicon Valley forwarded 900 housing offers while coordinating occupational opportunities for evacuees. Local businesses and individuals have also contributed generous cash, food, and supply donations to the recovery effort.

I commend the many individuals, organizations and agencies of Santa Clara County that contributed to the relief effort. I know that these donations and others from across the country have made a meaningful impact on the lives of the thousands of Gulf Coast residents still living in a state of uncertainty.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, the House has voted to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), a historic measure first passed in 1994. It marked when our country finally recognized that domestic violence is not a private family matter, but a national problem that requires a national response. Since VAWA passed, victims of domestic violence have more options to leave abusive relationships, local communities have developed critical programs to assist victims, and our criminal justice system has become better trained in prosecuting these unique crimes.

However, it is always the incident that happens in your backyard that will highlight the scope of a problem, such as domestic violence. In 2003, the state of Washington State became the focus of a national tragedy. Many have read in the papers the heartbreaking story of how, on April 26, 2003, Crystal Brame was shot in a grocery store parking lot by her husband, David Brame, chief of police for the city of Tacoma. Crystal Brame died one week later, and David Brame committed suicide at the scene.

In response to this tragedy, people in the state of Washington swiftly formed a statewide task force of domestic violence, law enforcement, and criminal justice system experts to determine the best practices for law enforcement agencies, focusing on prevention, training, enforcement, and response. Crystal's death and the state's response, illustrated that despite the progress since VAWA passed in 1994, tragedies of domestic violence live in our communities today, and that we must continue to work towards new solutions.

I think we can do a better job helping people like Crystal, whose abuser happened to be in a profession that responds to crimes of domestic violence. I have hopes that my col-

leagues will help put a stop to such tragedies and work with Mr. Norm Dicks, Mr. Adam Smith, and Mr. Dave Reichert, and me to commission a study by the Department of Justice to learn more about such incidences and the best response to officer-involved domestic violence. Ending domestic violence is an ongoing effort, and I have seen great improvements to this end. I would like to see an even stronger commitment so that other communities can prevent tragedies—like that of Crystal Brame from happening in their backyard.

HONORING THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JAMES A. LEACH

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 40th anniversary of the National Endowment for the Humanities and to offer my congratulations to its chairman, Bruce Cole.

In 1965, Congress discovered that the most successful democracies consist of the most informed, the most curious, and the most creative citizens. When the 89th Congress created the National Endowment for the Humanities, it declared that "Democracy demands wisdom and vision in its citizens."

For 40 years, the NEH has promoted "wisdom and vision" by advancing the study and understanding of history, literature, languages, archaeology, philosophy, and other humanities subjects, throughout the United States.

As Chairman Cole has so profoundly observed, "The humanities are the study of what makes us human: the legacy of our past, the ideas and principles that motivate us, and the eternal questions that we still ponder. The classics and archeology show us whence our civilization came. The study of literature and art shape our sense of beauty. The knowledge of philosophy and religion give meaning to our concepts of justice and goodness."

Today, the role humanities play in education is increasingly important. Of all the learning disciplines, they tap and expand the human imagination the most. In a world of exploding options for individuals and families, it is imperative that history provide reference points, and when there is no experience to serve as guide, that the imagination be stimulated, and perspectives applied and values brought to bear. Without reference to the guide posts of the humanities, society loses its soul. It becomes rudderless in the seas of societal change.

TENNESSEANS COME TOGETHER TO AID THE LOUISIANA PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, Tennesseans have a long tradition of volunteerism. In times of need, the Nation is able to count on our state.

In the aftermath of a truly devastating hurricane season, we've seen our state and our

country come together to assist the gulf coast region. Tennesseans are opening their hearts and homes to evacuees and assisting with what will be a very long recovery. Our own Nashville Symphony will host a benefit concert on October 4, 2005 for the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra (LPO) as it struggles to survive. Nashville area businesses and the community have come together to reunite the LPO in our city for a benefit concert.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Executive Director Alan Valentine, his team at the Nashville Symphony, and the many local businesses and supporters who've come together to aid the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra.

TRIBUTE TO LAXMAIAH MANCHIKANTI, PH.D

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize one of my constituents, Laxmaiah Manchikanti, Ph.D of Paducah, Kentucky. Dr. Manchikanti has been practicing medicine in my Congressional District for the last 24 years. I have known Dr. Manchikanti for several years and have found him to be a man of incredible integrity who is devoted to helping others. He is an active member of the community as well as a forceful leader in the field of pain management. Dr. Manchikanti, an immigrant from India who is a naturalized citizen of the United States, exemplifies the fulfillment of the American dream.

Dr. Manchikanti is a well known physician with interests in many aspects of medicine, both in patient care, as well as academics. He specializes in anesthesiology with a sub-specialty in interventional pain management and is well known in the circles of interventional pain management. Apart from his interest in the clinical practice of anesthesiology and interventional pain management, he is also proficient in administrative medicine, patient advocacy, the economics of healthcare, medical ethics, and various other aspects of the profession.

Dr. Manchikanti is an avid clinical researcher with numerous publications in peer-reviewed journals with original contributions, along with book publications. He is also an internationally known teacher who has conducted multiple seminars. As President and founder of the American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians (ASIPP), Dr. Manchikanti has participated in the development of various guidelines, published on the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) web-site. Apart from this, he also functions as a consultant to companies which assess evidence including ECRI (formerly the Emergency Care Research Institute), which is in charge of the AHRQ web-site and others. He also serves as a member on the Carrier Advisory Committee of Kentucky.

Because Dr. Manchikanti is a specialist in pain management, many of the drugs he prescribes have the potential to become addictive. During a conversation I had with Dr. Manchikanti a few years ago, we discussed Kentucky's efforts to combat prescription drug abuse through the Kentucky All Schedules

Prescription Electronic Reporting System (KASPER) which monitors Schedule II through IV controlled substances to detect and deter abuse. Dr. Manchikanti touted the benefits of KASPER which allows him to receive a report on all of the controlled substances his patients have been prescribed.

The problem that Dr. Manchikanti identified was that while KASPER was effective in Kentucky, there was no mechanism to determine if his patients had been prescribed a controlled substance in another state. In Kentucky, which is bordered by seven states (four in my District alone), it is easy for an individual to engage in the practice of "Dr. Shopping." In an effort to address the problem, Dr. Manchikanti and the American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians (ASIPP) proposed legislation creating a national monitoring system based on KASPER whereby physicians in all states would have access to the controlled substance prescription information of their patients, no matter where they filled the prescription. To that end, Dr. Manchikanti and ASIPP submitted draft legislation entitled the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Act (NASPER).

After reviewing the language and examining the idea, I decided to introduce NASPER with my colleague FRANK PALLONE during the 107th Congress. After three years of hard work by Dr. Manchikanti, ASIPP, and our supporters in Congress, we passed NASPER in both Houses of Congress and President Bush signed it into law on August 11th. NASPER combats prescription drug abuse through the creation of a grant program housed at the Department of Health and Human Services to help states establish and maintain state-operated prescription drug monitoring programs (PMPs). California established the first PMP in 1940. Nineteen additional states currently operate a PMP and five more are in the process of establishing them.

NASPER addresses one of the main impediments to existing PMPs—that they currently operate only on an intrastate basis while the diversion of drugs is an interstate problem. We help foster interstate communication by establishing some uniform standards on information and privacy protections that will make it easier for states to share information. Columbia University noted in a report released over the summer that between 1992 and 2003 the number of people abusing prescription drugs increased 94 percent—twice the increase in the number of people using marijuana, five times the number of people using cocaine, and 60 times the number of people using heroin. Even more disturbing, the report found a 212 percent increase in the number of children between the ages of 12 and 17 abusing prescription drugs.

NASPER, which is now Public Law 109–60, would not have been possible without the leadership provided by Dr. Manchikanti and ASIPP. I'm confident that the enactment of NASPER will give physicians and law enforcement an additional tool to help reduce the number of Americans abusing prescription drugs.

IN RECOGNITION OF BETTY GORHAM AND FIFTY YEARS AS A CHURCH ORGANIST

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Betty Gorham, who will be celebrating 50 years as a church organist on Sunday, October 2, 2005.

Betty Gorham is now the organist at First Baptist Church of Saks in Anniston, Alabama, and has been since October of 1975.

Betty Gorham began taking organ lessons at age seven in Chattanooga, Tennessee, where her family moved after her father's death in 1943. Her instruction continued until she was 16 years old, at which time she was performing at her home church, Eastdale Baptist Church. Her first full-time job as an organist was at Signal Mountain Baptist in Chattanooga in 1957, and was followed shortly by a move to Birmingham, Alabama, to play at Huffman Baptist Church. In fact, it was while playing the organ for a wedding rehearsal at this church that she met her future husband, Jim Gorham. They were married in 1958, and Betty followed her husband in several moves around the State of Alabama. They went first to Montgomery, where Betty played at Ridgecrest Baptist; then to Mobile in 1960, where she played at Westlawn Baptist; then back to Birmingham, Alabama, in 1963, where she played first at Fairfield Highlands Baptist Church and then at Center Point Baptist. Finally in 1973, the Gorhams moved to Anniston, Alabama, where she played at Parker Memorial and Heflin Baptist Church before beginning her long career at First Baptist Church of Saks.

Betty and Jim Gorham have now been married 47 years and have four grandchildren. In addition to her devotion to her family and her church and church music, Betty has found time to do charitable work in the community.

Let us all congratulate Betty Gorham on her 50 years of service as a church organist and thank her for her 30 years of service at First Baptist Church of Saks in Anniston, Alabama.

RECOGNIZING PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-BIAN REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the citizens of Taiwan and to recognize their democratically elected President Chen Shui-bian who has made a stopover in the United States en route to Central America. I trust that President Chen has had a good visit in the U.S.

In the last five years, Taiwan has continued to impress the world as a prosperous island nation, free and democratic. Taiwan is truly committed to genuine democratization, as evidenced by the third direct presidential election of 2004.

By working together, Taiwan and China will have the potential to make significant contributions to peace, security and prosperity in the

entire Pacific Rim. I sincerely hope that a framework will soon be established for peaceful interactions between the two sides. It is everyone's dream that rapprochement between Taiwan and China be possible within the shortest period of time and to all parties' satisfaction.

The people of the U.S. appreciate Taiwan's cooperation with the U.S. government in combating global terrorism and Taiwan's monetary contributions to the Twin Towers Fund and the Pentagon Memorial Fund. The relationship between Taiwan and the United States is strong and healthy. Ambassador David Tawei Lee is an effective bridge between the government of Taiwan and the government of the U.S.

Mr. Speaker, we must always remember Taiwan's important role in maintaining peace and stability in the Pacific Rim. To have permanent peace in the region, the U.S. must do its part in urging Taiwan and China to continue peaceful dialogue and exchanges.

COMMEMORATING THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES' 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 40th anniversary of the creation of the National Endowment for the Humanities—a small, independent Federal agency that each year puts millions of Americans in contact with the ideas, ideals, and institutions of our great Nation.

As co-chairman of the newly established Congressional Humanities Caucus, I would like to congratulate the Endowment's Chairman, Dr. Bruce Cole, and his dedicated staff on the agency's anniversary.

In establishing the NEH through the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965, Congress declared that "encouragement and support of national progress . . . in the humanities . . . , while primarily a matter of private and local initiative, is also an appropriate matter of concern to the Federal Government." Acknowledging the Federal Government's interest in promoting progress and scholarship in the humanities, the 89th Congress expressed this interest in a single, powerful observation: "Democracy demands wisdom and vision in its citizens."

For 40 years, NEH has promoted "wisdom and vision" by advancing the study and understanding of history, literature, languages, archaeology, and philosophy throughout the United States. With the relatively small amount of funding provided by Congress to the agency each year, the Endowment provides important seed money for projects and programs including scholarly editions of the papers of historical and cultural figures, preservation of historically important books and newspapers, seminars and institutes for K–12 teachers and college and university faculty, major television documentaries, and educational museum exhibitions.

Beginning in 2002, at the direction of President Bush and with the support of Congress, NEH began a historic initiative, We the People. We the People is a multi-faceted, agency-wide program focused on examining significant events and themes in our Nation's history. The initiative is designed to expand

awareness and knowledge of the traditions and values that have formed our Nation, and to enhance appreciation of our civic institutions.

Because contact with the humanities encourages individuals and our Nation to seek knowledge and wisdom, to reflect deeply on issues, and to make sense of and find meaning in our cultural heritage, the mission of the NEH continues to be a worthy national enterprise.

I extend my congratulations to the NEH for its 40 years of service to the American people.

REMARKS IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE RESOLUTION 388

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the House of Representatives considered House Resolution 388, a resolution condemning the gross human rights violations committed by the Cuban regime, and expressing the support of this House for the right of the Cuban people to exercise their fundamental political and civil liberties. Unfortunately due to scheduled Committee hearings I was unable to be on the floor during debate on this extremely important resolution. As chairman of the International Relations Committee Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere—and a long-standing critic of the Castro regime—and co-sponsor of the resolution, I want to take this opportunity to express my strong support for H. Res. 388. I would also like to thank my colleague from Florida, Congressman LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART—a true champion for the Cuban people—for introducing this resolution and once again highlighting the atrocious human rights violations the Cuban people continue to suffer at the hands of Castro's oppressive regime.

Since Castro assumed control of Cuba on January 1, 1959, fundamental human rights and basic living conditions have deteriorated tremendously. Most Cuban people live every day in fear of their government, thousands of whom risk their lives every year to flee the communist regime by any means necessary—even attempting to brave the hazardous 90-mile crossing between the United States and Cuba on makeshift rafts.

For a time, they tried to pretend that Mr. Castro had changed his ways, but events in Cuba over the past two years have reopened the eyes of the world community to the true evil nature of the Castro Regime. For example, Castro created a constitutional amendment permanently making socialism the official form of state government, and positioning himself to remain in power until he is either forcibly removed or deceased. In addition to these totalitarian mandates, he has staged the most sweeping crackdown on peaceful advocates of change in the history of Cuba.

On March 18, 2003, Fidel Castro ordered the arrest of many writers, poets, librarians, and pro-democracy activists in a large-scale operation to stifle any movement against his regime. Subsequently, some of the targeted individuals were released, but 75 remained in jail to be tried for their "crimes" against the country, citing Article 91 of Cuba's Penal Code

that states, "(anyone) who in the interest of a foreign state, commits an act with the objective of damaging the independence or territorial integrity of the state of Cuba." The Cuban government accused the dissidents of engaging in activities that could be perceived as damaging to Cuba's internal order, and/or perceived as encouraging to United States embargoes against the country.

The list of Cuban detainees published by Amnesty International in their "Essential Measures" brief of 2003 reveals some striking information. Among the detained are 23 people over the age of 50, as well as 5 others who are more than 60 years of age. I wonder what dissenting activities they were engaging in that would earn them a collective 1,242 years in prison. These peaceful pro-democracy advocates, whom Mr. Castro likes to call dissidents or "enemies of the revolution," were convicted for activities such as: attending an assembly to promote civil society, possessing membership in the Committee on Cuban Human Rights, or publishing documents to be disseminated abroad that represent a clear means of implementing the measures established in Article IV of LIBERTAD, also known as the Helms-Burton Act, which would increase the United States sanctions and blockades against Cuba.

Three of the 75 activists rounded up during the regime's Spring 2003 crackdown on dissent are currently engaging in a hunger strike to protest the deplorable conditions of their confinement; contaminated food and water, excessive heat, filthy conditions and medical mistreatment.

Christian Liberation Movement member José Daniel Ferrer, who has not eaten for more than 22 days. He is serving a 25-year sentence for promoting the Varela Project, a constitutional petition calling for free elections, civil liberties and freedom for political prisoners. He recently was placed in a prison unit with dangerous common criminals, a tactic that Cuban authorities often use to harass and injure political prisoners.

Víctor Rolando Arroyo, an independent journalist and librarian, has been on a hunger strike for more than 16 days. In 2000 he spent 6 months in jail for giving out toys to children on Three Kings Day. Now he is serving a 26-year sentence. His wife says that he has been hospitalized. He has refused forced feeding and is severely dehydrated.

Félix Navarro, a democracy advocate and Varela Project activist, has shared the hunger strike in solidarity with Mr. Arroyo, who is in the same prison. Mr. Navarro is serving a 25-year term.

Just this past July, the Castro regime renewed its efforts to stamp out the pro-democracy movement.

On July 13, 2005, the Cuban Government detained 24 human rights activists who were participating in a solemn event in remembrance of the victims of the tugboat massacre of innocent civilians by the Cuban government on July 13, 1994. Human rights activists Rene Montes de Oca, Emilio Leiva Perez, Camilo Cairo Falcon, Manuel Perez Soira, Roberto Guerra Perez, and Lazaro Alonso Roman remain incarcerated from the July 13, 2005, event and face trumped up charges of "disorderly conduct."

On July 22, 2005, Members of the pro-democracy opposition in Cuba sought to demonstrate in a peaceful and orderly manner in

front of the French Embassy in Havana, on behalf of the liberation of all Cuban political prisoners, and to protest the current policy of the European Union toward the Cuban Government. The Cuban regime mobilized its repressive state security apparatus to intimidate and harass, and eventually arrest and detain many of those who were planning on attending the peaceful protest. These leaders in the struggle for freedom in Cuba continue to be detained without cause.

The Cuban regime has also arrested more than 400 young Cubans, from late 2004 through June of 2005, as a "measure of pre-delinquent security."

The facts are undeniable; the Castro regime is just as committed today to repressing attempts by the Cuban people to bring democratic change to the island and denying the Cuban people their universally recognized liberties, including freedom of speech, association, movement, and the press as it was in 1959. That is why H.R. 388 is so important; because it sends a strong message to the Castro regime that this House will not forget—and it will not let the world community forget—those people who are suffering and dying in Cuban prisons for the so-called crime of speaking out against the injustices perpetrated by Castro and his henchmen.

Mr. Speaker—although I am very concerned about the state of democracy throughout the Western Hemisphere—as it stands today, Cuba is the only nation in the hemisphere that is a complete dictatorship. As U.S. service men and women put their lives on the line to bring freedom and democracy to people around the world who have long suffered under the hand of tyranny, we only need to look at Cuba to see what can happen when any Nation shuns democracy and subjugates itself to the whims of dictatorship.

I believe that because of the ills inflicted upon Cuba by the Castro regime, the transition from economic stagnation and political oppression to a democratic society built around the principles of respect for the rule of law and basic human rights—with a free economy—will be a challenging process, but it is an attainable endeavor. I have hope that there will be a day when the light of democracy shines in Havana. Until that day, I say to Mr. Castro—we will never forget.

HONORING THE AUGUSTUS LUTHERAN CHURCH

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Augustus Lutheran Church in Trappe, Pennsylvania on the occasion of their 275th anniversary.

The Augustus Lutheran Congregation was founded with its first baptism on May 8, 1730. From there, the first church was built. Originally described by an early Church press release as a "shrine of Lutheranism," the Augustus Lutheran Church has diligently served its community since 1743. The first church building was constructed by its first pastor, Henry Melchior Muhlenberg. Its construction, according to church documents, marks the beginning of the Lutheran movement in America.

This unique church also stands as an extraordinary symbol that emphasizes the impressive 275 years that the Augustus' ministry has served its community in Pennsylvania. The Augustus Lutheran Church has always had a close and reciprocal relationship with its community. Prior to the construction of the Church, the Augustus congregation built the first schoolhouse in Providence Township, Pennsylvania, where Muhlenberg served as one of the teachers. Consequently, in 1743 when the congregation decided to build a church, men in the community donated their labor and materials by hauling stone and timber, while the women and children split and shaved shingles for the roof. The official dedication ceremony took place on October 6, 1745 when a dedicatory stone was placed in the wall over the main entrance. In 1751, the gallery was erected to house the newly purchased pipe organ that was brought from Europe. This pipe organ was unique in that it was one of first pipe organs in any country church in America.

As the congregation grew throughout the next one hundred years, so did the need for a new church that could adequately accommodate its members. In 1852, a new cornerstone was laid and a new brick church was constructed. Throughout the following years, extensive reconstruction was done on the new church. Sunday school facilities were created, the pulpit was refurbished, and the pipe organ was electrified and enlarged by the addition of an echo organ chamber and chimes. In 1960, a new parish house was added and in 1987, new stained glass windows were added. Today, the Augustus Lutheran Congregation has grown substantially to include 480 families with 1,000 baptized members.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the Augustus Lutheran Church for its rich and honored history and its exemplary contributions to the religious and community life of the Trappe area for the past 275 years.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF "LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL!"

SPEECH OF

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.J. Res. 66, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of "Lights On Afterschool." Lights On Afterschool is a national celebration of after school programs and the dedicated people who keep them going.

After school programs play an important role in the lives of millions of school children throughout the United States. These programs provide fun and educational activities that help develop the social, emotional, physical, cultural, and academic skills of children, while giving them a safe and enriching alternative to the streets.

Students in my home town of Chicago benefit from hundreds of exciting after school options. Many of these are coordinated through After School Matters, a non-profit organization which partners with the City of Chicago, the Chicago Public Schools, the Chicago Park

District, the Chicago Public Library, and the Chicago Department of Children and Youth Services to create a network of after school opportunities for teens in underserved communities.

Through After School Matters, Chicago teens take part in engaging activities that provide skills that translate to the workplace. After School Matters helps kids build positive relationships with adults and peers, providing them with access to educational and career opportunities in their neighborhoods and the city.

Programs such as After School Matters are making a difference in communities throughout the United States. These programs deserve our support, and I urge my colleagues to make after school programs a priority as we move through the budget process.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to take this opportunity to recognize the work of these dedicated people who help provide quality after school opportunities for children. On October 20th, I urge my colleagues to participate in "Lights On Afterschool" and honor the after school programs which serve their communities.

CONGRATULATING SHERIFF MARK HACKEL

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Sheriff Mark Hackel, who is the recipient of the 2005 Alexander Macomb Man of the Year Award from the March of Dimes.

Mark Hackel has dedicated his professional life to serving and protecting Macomb County. He began his career in 1981 as a dispatcher with the Macomb County Sheriff's Department and since then he has held every rank within the Department. Through hard work and determination, Mark was elected as Macomb County Sheriff in November of 2000.

Sheriff Hackel graduated from Sterling Heights High School in 1980. He received an Associate Degree from Macomb Community College in 1983, a Bachelor of Art Degree in Criminal Justice from Wayne State University in 1991, and a Master Degree in Public Administration from Central Michigan University in 1996.

To ensure excellence professionally, Sheriff Hackel has attended in 1994 the F.B.I. National Academy in Quantico, Virginia, and the United States Secret Service Dignitary Protection School in Washington D.C. He also has international training which includes Project Harmony Educational Exchange in Lviv, Ukraine and the Police Instructor Exchange Program in London, England.

In addition to being the Sheriff of the third largest county in Michigan, Sheriff Hackel serves his community in a number of other important capacities. He teaches young adults at Macomb Community College, is a Police Academy Instructor and an Advanced Police Training Instructor at the Macomb Criminal Justice Training Center.

Sheriff Hackel also participates in many community based organizations such as Mothers Against Drunk Driving, American Cancer Society, and Traffic Safety Association of

Macomb. He has been a mentor through Winning Futures Mentoring Program and serves as a Fitness Council Advisory Board Member for Creating a Healthier Macomb.

Sheriff Hackel understands that many factors influence the law enforcement environment he is elected to lead and he seeks to bring about a better and safer community through all of his many endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, I have been privileged to work with Sheriff Mark Hackel and to see first hand his many effective endeavors. I ask my colleagues to join me recognizing Sheriff Mark Hackel for his commitment to excellence, and his professional and personal devotion to his community.

HONORING AND RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATION OF THE MOHAMMAD ATAYA PARK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the Ataya family for their collective vision, generosity and concern for the people of Twinsburg, especially the children, for donating their personal property and transforming it into a public park for residents of all ages to enjoy. Dr. Khalid Ataya, his wife, Dr. Alfida Ataya, and their three children, Dana, Samy and Ramsey, have dedicated the park in honor of Dr. Ataya's father, Mohammad Ataya.

Mohammad Ataya worked diligently to provide a safe and secure home for his family in America, and has also ensured that the cultural bridge connecting the Ataya family—from Cleveland to Lebanon—remains viable and strong. Mr. Ataya continues to be the center of his family, a living legacy defined by a steadfast dedication to his wife, nine children, and his many grandchildren.

In a clearing surrounded by trees, playground equipment, park benches and picnic tables spring from the green grass at Mohammad Ataya Park, located on Cambridge Street in Twinsburg. Plans are already in place to expand the playground and picnic area at the park—preserving a natural space where a sense of renewal is possible and where family unity abounds.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Dr. Khalid and Alfida Ataya, for their vision and generosity in entrusting their land to the Township of Twinsburg for use as a public park, in honor of Dr. Ataya's father, Mohammad Ataya. Mohammad Ataya Park will flourish as a vital preservation of green space and will exist as a peaceful and joyous haven, accessible to all citizens, today and for generations to come. As founding members of the Arab American Community Center for Economic and Social Services (AACCESS), Dr. Khalid and Dr. Alfida Ataya continue to embrace an energetic spirit and a dedication focused on service to others, and their efforts and volunteerism continue to enhance our entire community.

HONORING COMCAST CARES DAY

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Comcast Cable Communications for their contributions to community service and volunteerism as demonstrated in their unique one-day Comcast Cares Day volunteer community project.

Comcast Cable Communications has an impressive history of investing in the people and the communities that they serve. From its founding more than 40 years ago, Comcast has diligently given back to its communities through various community outreach programs. In 1997, Comcast employees and their families participated in the Philadelphia Cares Day. The Philadelphia Cares Day began as a day of city-wide community service in the Comcast headquarters' hometown. Over the next several years, Philadelphia Cares Day became what is now known as Comcast Cares Day. Today, Comcast Cares Day, the signature event of the company, is a national day of volunteer service for Comcast employees and their families in all the communities where Comcast operates.

The goal of Comcast Cable Corporation is to have 30,000 volunteers go into the communities the company serves and give back by improving the community aesthetically and by creating a stronger social presence for the company. At each event, Comcast goes out of their way to provide free manpower, supplies, and refreshment for each event. Most importantly, Comcast Cares Day unifies the company with the local community by working together towards a common goal.

In 2004, Comcast employees and their families volunteered to give back to their community during Comcast Cares Day. This inspiring group of individuals logged an estimated 180,000 hours worth of service in their respective communities. After such an impressive turnout in 2004, Comcast hopes to exceed their number of volunteers in 2005 by completing projects such as cleaning, painting, landscaping, preparing meals at food banks, and refurbishing community parks and recreation centers.

Specifically our area, the spirit of volunteerism and activities of Comcast employees' creates a positive impact on the Plymouth Township Community. One hundred and ninety volunteers will be recruited to work in Plymouth Township and they will address numerous community needs in a day of service to their fellow citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing Comcast Cable Corporation for their commitment to volunteerism and community service, not only in Pennsylvania, but throughout the country.

HONORING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY COLLEGE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate San Joaquin Valley College on the celebration of their 20th Anniversary.

San Joaquin Valley College deserves to be commended for its dedication to maintaining a quality educational environment for all of the students on its various campuses. The college has made enormous progress within its twenty-year history. San Joaquin Valley College has advanced from a student body of less than 20 and a staff of only 11 to having over 660 students with a faculty of over 100 employees.

San Joaquin Valley College was founded in 1985. From their humble beginning, the college has always put their students first. They offer degree and certificate programs in business, medical, and technical fields. The college has ever increasing programs to fit the needs of their students. They are also committed to providing the best of both general and vocational education. From 1985 to present, San Joaquin Valley College has graduated over 8,400 students from their Fresno campus alone.

In 1995 San Joaquin Valley College became regionally accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. The college makes sure to stay involved with the community. The Fresno Campus of San Joaquin Valley College is a strong partner in the local community, receiving numerous awards and recognition from some of the following organizations: The Mayor's Office for the Fresno Dental Assistants, the California State Job Training Coordinating Council for Outstanding Service Provider, the Community Appreciation Award from the United Way of Fresno County, American Red Cross and so many other noteworthy organizations.

For the past 20 years San Joaquin Valley College has created superior learning standards that can only be described as life changing by all of their graduates. They offer small classes, a family-like atmosphere, flexible class schedules, hands-on training, financial aid availability, as well as job placement assistance. San Joaquin Valley College provides quality education in order to produce quality potential employees.

We stand to commend San Joaquin Valley College as an excellent educational provider and applaud their efforts to strengthen our community.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DESOTO TRAIL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate DeSoto Trail Elementary School in Tallahassee, Florida for receiving the Blue Ribbon School award under

the No Child Left Behind program. As the home of the Trailblazers they have lived up to their mascots name in earning this award. This is a testament to the quality of education this school provides and to the hard work the administrators, faculty and students have done to be one of only thirteen schools in the entire State to win this award.

Many identify No Child Left Behind with efforts to improve failing schools. However, schools like DeSoto Trail that go above and beyond what is required by the law should not be forgotten. I am extremely proud of not just the students who worked so hard, but also the faculty and administrators whom spent so many hours helping the students become better citizens through education.

DeSoto Trail Elementary is a model of excellence that will serve as an example for every elementary school throughout the United States. This school has proven that through hard work and dedication, academic success is not out of reach for any student.

Therefore, I ask every member to please, join with me in congratulating the children and teachers who have worked so hard to achieve their goal. I would also like to congratulate Principal Janis Johnson and Assistant Principal Hank McGrotha for providing this level of excellence.

The future of this country depends on the success of our education system. As the Representative of Tallahassee, Florida, I am honored and proud to be on the floor today speaking about such students and the parents who support them everyday.

CONSTANCE BAKER MOTLEY'S LIFE AND LEGACY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life and legacy of Judge Constance Baker Motley who died September 21, 2005. Constance Baker Motley had a remarkable career as a public servant, achieving success both as an elected official and as a Federal judge. She made history and contributed greatly to the widening of opportunities for minorities and women. Judge Motley was the first woman and first African-American woman to be appointed to the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, the largest Federal trial bench in the country; the first African-American woman to be elected to the New York State Senate and the first woman to the Manhattan Borough Presidency.

Constance Baker Motley was born on September 14, 1921 in New Haven, CT, where her father worked as chef for a Yale University fraternity. Her parents were West Indian emigrants who encouraged her to excel in school and to become involved in community activities. Clarence Blakeslee, a wealthy white contractor and philanthropist was so impressed by her that he paid for her college education. She attended Fisk University and graduated from New York University in 1943. In 1946, she received her law degree from Columbia University, and married real estate and insurance broker, Joel Wilson Motley. She also began work as a law clerk with the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund. Thurgood Marshall

interviewed her for the position and continued to mentor and support her in the years to come.

As one of the NAACP's principal trial attorneys Motley played a role in all of the major school segregation cases. She helped write the briefs filed in *Brown v. Board of Education*, 1954, and she personally tried the cases resulting in the admission of James Meredith to the University of Mississippi and of Charlayne Hunter-Gault and Hamilton Holmes to the University of Georgia. In the 1950's and 1960's she argued 10 civil rights cases before the Supreme Court, winning 9. She also represented such luminaries as Dr. Martin Luther King and the Reverend Ralph Abernathy.

In 1964 Motley became the first Black woman elected to the New York State Senate and in 1965 she became the first woman elected to be president of the Borough of Manhattan. In 1966 she was named U.S. District Judge, the first African-American woman to be appointed to the federal bench. Her nomination was approved only after months of fierce political opposition; President Lyndon Johnson had been forced to withdraw his earlier nomination of Motley to the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Constance Baker Motley is the author of dozens of articles on legal and civil rights issues, including several personal tributes to Thurgood Marshall. She has received honorary doctorates from Spelman College, Howard, Princeton, and Brown Universities, and from many Connecticut institutions, including Yale, Trinity, Albertus Magnus, UCONN, and the University of Hartford. Among her many other awards are the NAACP Medal of Honor and her 1993 election to the National Women's Hall of Fame.

Judge Constance Baker Motley has truly been a trailblazer in the advancement of civil rights for all Americans, and a pioneer in breaking racial and gender barriers within the once homogeneous legal arenas. She is truly not only an African-American "shero," she is an American icon as well. Judge Motley leaves behind her husband of 59 years, Joel Wilson Motley, her son Joel Motley III; three sisters; a brother; and three grandchildren.

I submit to you two obituaries from the September 29th, 2005 edition of the New York Times and from the same edition of the Washington Post.

[From the New York Times, Sept. 29, 2005]

CONSTANCE BAKER MOTLEY, CIVIL RIGHTS
TRAILBLAZER, DIES AT 84
(By Douglas Martin)

Constance Baker Motley, a civil rights lawyer who fought nearly every important civil rights case for two decades and then became the first black woman to serve as a federal judge, died yesterday at NYU Downtown Hospital in Manhattan. She was 84.

The cause was congestive heart failure, said Isolde Motley, her daughter-in-law.

Judge Motley was the first black woman to serve in the New York State Senate, as well as the first woman to be Manhattan borough president, a position that guaranteed her a voice in running the entire city under an earlier system of local government called the Board of Estimate.

Judge Motley was at the center of the first storm that raged through the South in the two decades after World War II, as blacks and their white allies pressed to end the segregation that had gripped the region since Reconstruction. She visited the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in jail, sang freedom

songs in churches that had been bombed, and spent a night under armed guard with Medgar Evers, the civil rights leader who was later murdered.

But her métier was in the quieter, painstaking preparation and presentation of lawsuits that paved the way to fuller societal participation by blacks. She dressed elegantly, spoke in a low, lilting voice and, in case after case, earned a reputation as the chief courtroom tactician of the civil rights movement.

Gov. George C. Wallace of Alabama and other staunch segregationists yielded, kicking and screaming, to the verdicts of courts ruling against racial segregation. These huge victories were led by the N.A.A.C.P.'s Legal Defense and Education Fund, led by Thurgood Marshall, for which Judge Motley, Jack Greenberg, Robert Carter and a handful of other underpaid, overworked lawyers labored.

In particular, she directed the legal campaign that resulted in the admission of James H. Meredith to the University of Mississippi in 1962. She argued 10 cases before the United States Supreme Court and won nine of them.

Judge Motley won cases that ended segregation in Memphis restaurants and at whites-only lunch counters in Birmingham, Ala. She fought for King's right to march in Albany, Ga. She played an important role in representing blacks seeking admission to the Universities of Florida, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi and Clemson College in South Carolina.

She helped write briefs in the landmark school desegregation case *Brown v. Board of Education* in 1954 and in later elementary-school integration cases.

Judge Motley was a tall, gracious and stately woman whose oft-stated goal was as simple as it was sometimes elusive: dignity for all people. Her personal approach was also dignified. When a reporter wrote that she had demanded some action by the court, she soon corrected him:

"What do you mean 'I demanded the court'? You don't demand, you pray for relief or move for some action."

Charlayne Hunter-Gault, whose admission to the University of Georgia was engineered by Mrs. Motley's legal finesse, described her courtroom cunning.

"Mrs. Motley's style could be deceptive, often challenging a witness to get away with one lie after another without challenging them," she wrote in her book "In My Place," published in 1992. "It was as if she would lull them into an affirmation of their own arrogance, causing them to relax as she appeared to wander aimlessly off into and around left field, until she suddenly threw a curveball with so much skill and power it would knock them off their chair."

As a black woman practicing law in the South, she endured gawking and more than a few physical threats. A local paper in Jackson, Miss., derided her as "the Motley woman."

In 1966, President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed her as a judge on the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York at the urging of Senator Robert F. Kennedy of New York, a Democrat, and with the support of Senator Jacob K. Javits, a Republican. The opposition of Southern senators like James O. Eastland, a Mississippi Democrat, was beaten back, and her appointment was confirmed. She became chief judge of the district in 1982 and senior judge in 1986.

Constance Baker was born on Sept. 14, 1921, in New Haven, the ninth of 12 children. Her parents came from the tiny Caribbean island Nevis at the beginning of the 20th century.

Her father worked as a chef for various Yale University student organizations, in-

cluding Skull and Bones. She attended local schools in what was then an overwhelmingly white community.

One of her first experiences with discrimination came at 15, when she was turned away from a public beach because she was black.

She read books dealing with black history and became president of the local N.A.A.C.P. youth council. She decided that she wanted to be a lawyer, but her family lacked money to send their many children to college. After high school, she struggled to earn a living as a domestic worker.

When she was 18, she made a speech at local African-American social center that was heard by Clarence W. Blakeslee, a white businessman and philanthropist who sponsored the center. He was impressed and offered to finance her education.

She decided to attend Fisk University, a black college in Nashville, partly because she had never been to the South. In Nashville, she encountered a rigidly segregated society, and brought her parents a poignant souvenir: a sign that read "Colored Only."

After a year and a half at Fisk, she transferred to New York University. After graduation in 1943, she entered Columbia Law School, where she began to work as a volunteer at the N.A.A.C.P.'s Legal Defense and Education Fund, an affiliate of the National Organization for the Advancement of Colored People that Mr. Marshall and his mentor, Charles Houston, had created in 1939.

After she graduated in 1946, she began to work full time for the civil rights group at a salary of \$50 a week. She worked first on housing cases, fighting to break the restrictive covenants that barred blacks from white neighborhoods.

Also in 1946, she married Joel Wilson Motley Jr., a New York real estate broker. He survives her, as does their son, Joel III, who lives in Scarborough, N.Y.; three grandchildren; her brother Edmund Baker of Florida; and her sisters Edna Carnegie, Eunice Royster and Marian Green, all of New Haven.

Mr. Marshall had no qualms about sending her into the tensest racial terrain, precisely because she was a woman. She said she believed that was why she was assigned to the Meredith case in 1961.

"Thurgood says that the only people who are safe in the South are the women—white and Negro," she said in an interview with *Pictorial Living*, the magazine of *The New York Journal-American*, in 1965. "I don't know how he's got that figured. But, so far, I've never been subjected to any violence."

Mr. Meredith's admission to the University of Mississippi in September 1962 was a major victory for the civil rights movement. Mrs. Motley worked on the case for 18 months before Mr. Meredith's name was even seen in the papers.

She made 22 trips to Mississippi as the case dragged on. Judge Motley once called the day Mr. Meredith accepted his diploma in 1963 the most thrilling in her life.

She said her greatest professional satisfaction came with the reinstatement of 1,100 black children in Birmingham who had been expelled for taking part in street demonstrations in the spring of 1963.

In February 1964, Mrs. Motley's high-level civil rights profile drew her into politics. A Democratic State Senate candidate from the Upper West Side was ruled off the ballot because of an election-law technicality. She accepted the nomination on the condition that it would not interfere with her N.A.A.C.P. work and handily defeated a Republican to become the first black woman elected to the State Senate. She was re-elected that November.

She remained in the job until February 1965, when she was chosen by unanimous vote of the City Council to fill a one-year vacancy

as Manhattan borough president. In citywide elections nine months later, she was re-elected to a full four-year term with the endorsement of the Democratic, Republican and Liberal Parties.

As borough president, she drew up a seven-point program for the revitalization of Harlem and East Harlem, securing \$700,000 to plan for those and other underprivileged areas of the city.

After becoming a federal judge in 1966, Judge Motley ruled in many cases, but her decisions often reflected her past. She decided on behalf of welfare recipients, low-income Medicaid patients and a prisoner who claimed to have been unconstitutionally punished by 372 days of solitary confinement, whom she awarded damages.

She continued to try cases after she took senior status. Her hope as a judge was that she would change the world for the better, she said.

"The work I'm doing now will affect people's lives intimately," she said in an interview with *The New York Times* in 1977, "it may even change them."

[From the Washington Post, Sept. 29, 2005]

CIVIL RIGHTS LAWYER BAKER MOTLEY DIES

(By LARRY NEUMEISTER)

NEW YORK.—When she was 15, Constance Baker Motley was turned away from a public beach because she was black. It was only then—even though her mother was active in the NAACP—that the teenager really became interested in civil rights.

She went to law school and found herself fighting racism in landmark segregation cases including *Brown v. Board of Education*, the Central High School case in Arkansas and the case that let James Meredith enroll at the University of Mississippi.

Motley also broke barriers herself: She was the first black woman appointed to the federal bench, as well the first one elected to the New York state Senate.

Motley, who would have celebrated her 40th anniversary on the bench next year, died Wednesday of congestive heart failure at NYU Downtown Hospital, said her son, Joel Motley III. She was 84.

"She is a person of a kind and stature the likes of which they're not making anymore," said Chief Judge Michael Mukasey in U.S. District Court in Manhattan, where Motley served.

From 1961 to 1964, Motley won nine of 10 civil rights cases she argued before the Supreme Court.

"Judge Motley had the strength of a self-made star," federal Judge Kimba Wood said. "As she grew, she was unfailingly optimistic and positive—she never let herself be diverted from her goal of achieving civil rights, even though, as she developed as a lawyer, she faced almost constant condescension from our profession due to her being an African-American woman."

Motley, who spent two decades with the NAACP's Legal Defense and Educational Fund, started out there in 1945 as a law clerk to Thurgood Marshall, then its chief counsel and later a Supreme Court justice. In 1950, she prepared the draft complaint for what would become *Brown v. Board of Education*.

In her autobiography, "Equal Justice Under Law," Motley said defeat never entered her mind. "We all believed that our time had come and that we had to go forward."

The Supreme Court ruled in her and her colleagues' favor in 1954 in a decision credited with toppling public school segregation in America while touching off resistance across the country and leading to some of the racial clashes of the 1960s.

In the early 1960s, she personally argued the Meredith case as well as the suit that re-

sulted in the enrollment of two black students at the University of Georgia.

"Mrs. Motley's style could be deceptive, often allowing a witness to get away with one lie after another without challenging him," one of the students, journalist Charlayne Hunter-Gault, wrote in her 1992 book, "In My Place." But she would "suddenly throw a curve ball with so much skill and power that she would knock them off their chair."

Motley also argued the 1957 case in Little Rock, Ark., that led President Eisenhower to call in federal troops to protect nine black students at Central High.

Also in the early 1960s, she successfully argued for 1,000 school children to be reinstated in Birmingham, Ala., after the local school board expelled them for demonstrating. She represented "Freedom Riders" who rode buses to test the Supreme Court's 1960 ruling prohibiting segregation in interstate transportation. During this time, she represented the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. as well, defending his right to march in Birmingham and Albany, Ga.

Motley and the Legal Defense and Education Fund, committed to a careful strategy of dismantling segregation through the courts, were amazed by the emergence of more militant tactics such as lunch-counter sit-ins, but she came to believe that litigation was not the only road to equality.

Recalling a 1963 visit to King in jail, she remarked, "It was then I realized that we did indeed have a new civil rights leader—a man willing to die for our freedom."

Motley was born in New Haven, Conn., the ninth of 12 children. Her mother, Rachel Baker, was a founder of the New Haven chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Her father, Willoughby Alva Baker, worked as a chef for student organizations at Yale University.

It was the beach incident that solidified the course her life would take.

Though her parents could not afford to send her to college, a local philanthropist, Clarence W. Blakeslee, offered to pay for her education after hearing her speak at a community meeting.

Motley earned a degree in economics in 1943 from New York University, and three years later, got her law degree from Columbia Law School.

In the late 1950s, Motley took an interest in politics and by 1964 had left the NAACP to become the first black woman to serve in the New York Senate.

In 1965, she became the first woman president of the borough of Manhattan, where she worked to promote integration in public schools.

The following year, President Johnson nominated her to the federal bench in Manhattan. She was confirmed nine months later, though her appointment was opposed by conservative federal judges and Southern politicians.

Over the next four decades, Motley handled a number of civil rights cases, including her decision in 1978 allowing a female reporter to be admitted to the New York Yankees' locker room.

Motley is survived by her husband and son, three sisters and a brother.

HONORING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LOWER MERION CONSERVANCY

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Lower Merion Conservancy during

its 10th anniversary celebration. The Lower Merion Conservancy was formed in 1995 when the Lower Merion-Narberth Watershed Association merged with the Lower Merion Preservation Trust.

The Conservancy focuses on education, conservation and the preservation of historic resources and open space in Lower Merion Township, Montgomery County, PA. The Conservancy actively engages members of the community to participate in conservation through programs such as Stream Watch, in which individuals adopt a stream to monitor, and Bird Watch and Butterfly Watch, in which people identify and number species near their homes.

Additionally, the Conservancy has an easement program to protect Township properties and has forest restoration and native plant gardening programs. Folks from the Conservancy partner with school groups for educational programs with children, the highlight of which is the Children's Earth Day Forest. These projects emphasize to our young people the responsibility we all share to protect our natural resources.

I want to especially recognize the Conservancy's Executive Director, Mike Weilbacher. His leadership and efforts in educating the public about the environment and conservation have earned him awards from the Pennsylvania Resources Council, the Pennsylvania Wildlife Association and the Pennsylvania Alliance for Environmental Education.

I am proud to represent an organization that has spent so many years in service of our environment and our community. I wish to extend my appreciation, and that of all those who have been helped by members of the Conservancy. I encourage my colleagues to join me in saluting the Lower Merion Conservancy on reaching this milestone.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 209, Supporting the goals and ideals of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Domestic violence continues to have a devastating effect on American families. It is important for Congress to take a leading role in raising awareness about this issue.

I am proud to have played a leading role in creating the 1994 Violence Against Women Act during my time in the White House. Since the passage of this important act, the rate of domestic violence in the United States has diminished. However, there is still work to be done in breaking the cycle of violence and addressing the root causes of domestic violence.

Domestic violence affects women, men, and children of all racial, social, religious, ethnic and economic backgrounds. Between 1998 and 2002, family violence accounted for 11 percent of all reported violence in the nation. 22 percent of murders in 2002 were committed by family members of the victims, and approximately 15 percent of violent crime convictions were for an attack on a family member.

Congress must support measures to stop domestic violence before it begins through education, transitional housing assistance and counseling programs. We must also make it a priority to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act and ensure that this important legislation receives sufficient funding.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas for introducing this important resolution, and I urge my colleagues to join me in support of establishing October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

CONGRATULATING THE AGGELER FAMILY

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Aggeler Family, the proud recipients of the 2005 Donna Greco Issa Family of the Year Award from the March of Dimes.

Following in the tradition of those families who are past recipients of this distinguished award, the Aggeler Family has a strong and passionate enthusiasm for family and devotion to community.

Mr. and Mrs. Aggeler moved from Missouri to Michigan in 1944. Soon after, they founded a lumber company, John's Lumber, in Mount Clemens. The business has been in the family for over 58 years.

John Aggeler believed if you treat people well they would continue to come back. This ideology is the foundation for the company's commitment to its community, family, and employees. Currently, the family's third generation is working for the company and continues to reside in Macomb County.

The Aggeler children have continued his legacy of commitment and outstanding service. The thread of service to others runs through their family.

Michael Aggeler is one of many Aggeler children who continues to work for the family business and is extremely active in the community. For 31 years, Michael has been a member of St Mary's S.M.A.S.H. outing. He also served for 6 years as a board member of the Michigan Lumber and Building Materials Association and is a member of the Mount Clemens Lions Club.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me recognizing the Aggeler Family for their commitment to their family and employees, along with the extraordinary legacy of the service to their community. They are well deserving of the Donna Greco Issa Family of the Year Award.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF JESS A. BELL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Jess A. Bell, dedicated family man, community activist, business leader, U.S. Veteran, and friend and mentor to many.

Mr. Bell grew up in Cleveland, attended Baldwin Wallace College and served our country as a paratrooper during WWII and the Korean War. In 1959, he became president of the Lakewood-based Bonne Bell Inc., a company his father had started thirty-two years earlier.

Mr. Bell's unwavering integrity, concern for others, boundless energy and expansive heart, reflected within every facet of his life—from his commitment to his family, to his concern for his employees, to his social activism on behalf of charitable causes. He blazed a trail of opportunity for all when he became one of the only business leaders in America to initiate a program to hire senior citizens, some of them in their nineties. Many companies have since followed in his path, realizing the significant contributions offered by older Americans.

Always focused on the health and well-being of his employees, Mr. Bell, a marathon runner himself, provided on-site exercise facilities and offered financial incentives for employees who took personal responsibility for their physical health. In 1970, he founded the American Heart Association's Cleveland Heart-A-Thon. He also led the effort to establish a tennis tournament between the United States and Australia that served to promote the development of girls' junior tennis programs.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Jess A. Bell. Please also join me as I offer my deep condolences to his wife of 51 years, Juliana; his children, Julie, Buddy, James and Joe; his 14 grandchildren; his sister Bonne, and his extended family and many friends. Though he will be greatly missed, the joyous legacy of his life, framed by kindness, energy and an unwavering focus on lifting the lives of others, will live on forever within the hearts of his family and friends, and within the spirit of our entire community.

A TRIBUTE TO ROBERT WASH

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Robert M. Wash of Fresno, California. He is survived by his two sons John and Thomas, and daughter Lynn.

Robert Wash was a respected member of our community and his memory will be forever cherished. He was born to Henry and Effie Wash on May 27, 1908 and grew up in Fresno County. His family instilled in him the qualities of character with which he touched so many lives.

Upon graduation from Caruthers High School, Mr. Wash attended the University of California, Berkeley; where he graduated with a degree in Economics. Ever the dedicated student he continued his education at Boalt Hall and passed the California State Bar Exam. He pursued his passion for law by becoming a prosecuting attorney in the District Attorney's office for several years. In 1950, he was appointed Fresno County's first County Counsel. He retired from the position in 1978, after serving as County Counsel for 28 years. In 2001, Robert Wash received the highly prestigious Bernie E. Witkins Lifetime Achieve-

ment award from the Fresno County Bar Association.

Mr. Wash was not only a dedicated employee he was also an active community participant. He was a member of the Fresno Rotary Club, Fowler Friday Evening Club, Garden of the Sun Corral of the Westerners International and the San Joaquin Civil War Roundtable.

Robert Wash had a passion for history that he expressed through his amazing writing. His vast knowledge of the area's history and his love of the subject was projected through his writings. Many of the historical markers in Fresno County are inscribed with his words. He was the President of the Fresno County Historical Society and played the role of Confederate President Jefferson Davis at the Civil War Reenactment ceremonies on several occasions.

Aside from being an accomplished writer and making incredible professional achievements, Robert Wash was a beloved family man. He is described as being a good man who took care of his family.

Robert Wash was his Family's hero and will continue to be appreciated by his community.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DEERLAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL IN TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Deerlake Middle School, home of the Bucks, in Tallahassee, Florida for receiving the Blue Ribbon School award under the No Child Left Behind program. This award is certainly a testament to the quality of education this school provides and to the hard work the administrators, faculty and students have done to be one of only thirteen schools in the entire state to win this award.

Many identify No Child Left Behind with efforts to improve failing schools. However, schools like Deerlake that go above and beyond what is required by the law should not be forgotten. I am extremely proud of not just the students who worked so hard, but also the faculty and administrators whom spent so many hours helping the students become better citizens through education.

Deerlake Middle School is a model of excellence that will serve as an example to every Middle school throughout the United States. This school has proven that through hard work and dedication, academic success is not out of reach for any student.

Therefore, I ask every member to please, join with me in congratulating the children and teachers of Deerlake Middle School who have worked so hard to achieve their goal. I would also like to congratulate Principal Jackie Pons and Assistant Principals Gwendolyn Lynn Williams and Shane Syfrett for providing this level of excellence.

The future of this country depends on the success of our education system. As the Representative of Tallahassee Florida, I am honored and proud to be on the floor today speaking about such students and the parents who support them everyday.

PRIME MINISTER P.J. PATTERSON'S REMARKS AT CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS AWARDS DINNER

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the eloquent remarks made by the Honorable P.J. Patterson, Prime Minister of Jamaica as he accepted the Charles Diggs Award for International Service from the Congressional Black Caucus as part of our Annual Legislative Conference Awards Dinner on Saturday September 24, 2005. His acceptance speech reached beyond words of gratitude, to encompass a stirring statement of the basis for the commonality of people throughout the African Diaspora. Prime Minister Patterson inspired us with his words to promote enlightenment, encouragement, unity and brotherhood.

In his address he reminded us of the shared histories and experiences of Blacks in the Americas and across the globe. He showed how those who survived the Middle Passage were indeed part of a larger family of shared experience. Prime Minister Patterson illustrated the common experiences of poverty, neglect and misrepresentation that affected the social status of Africa and its descendants of the Diaspora alike. His message showed that the neglectful actions of federal, state, and local governments following Hurricane Katrina were a microcosm of the global experience of blacks everywhere in the world. He gave us hope that through this shared history, we have a common foundation from which we as one people regardless of nation, or geographic location can stand on to fight injustice around the world, especially since those of African descent suffer most from the injustices.

Mr. Patterson also reminded and encouraged us as public officials and as citizens of the world to continue the fight for what we vowed to do, fight for justice on the local, national and international levels. He reminded us in the African American community that we are not alone in our struggle for justice and equality. We are part of a global struggle to bring empowerment to those who are poor and oppressed around the world and that we must take courage from our faith that what is right will prevail. We all have to engage all our energies and intellects in the struggle to build the national and global framework where marginalized groups, industrialized countries, and developing nations alike have an equal voice in the determination of how best we protect and share the resources of not only our country and others alike, but our planet as well.

Prime Minister P.J. Patterson and his words of hope and optimism were a breath of fresh air to his audience during such despondent and confusing times. He gives direction where there is seemingly none, and he makes sense out of a seemingly senseless world. Thank you, Mr. Patterson for your words of encouragement and hope, and for exhibiting much courage and strength during a time when the world needs leaders with such characteristics. The citizens of Jamaica are truly blessed to have a leader like you, to guide them successfully into the future and we are as a people are fortunate to have you as part of our African family.

I submit the transcript of Prime Minister Patterson's acceptance speech given on Saturday September 24, 2005 to the Congressional Black Caucus' Annual Legislative Conference Awards Dinner to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Over a period of two centuries, some fifteen million young Africans were crowded into slave ships, propelled by the winds that sweep the Atlantic at this time of year.

Family victims of the pernicious system of slavery were separated forever according to the dictates of the plantocracy in the Caribbean, North, Central and South America.

So, no matter in what country we now reside, we are indeed one big family, one people. We are all descendants of those who survived the Middle Passage.

Once again, I express the deepest sympathy of the government and people of Jamaica to everyone who lost a relative or friend and to all who suffered the traumatic experiences and material losses of Hurricane Katrina.

It is appropriate to underscore our special empathy with our kith and kin, who by all accounts, suffered the greatest loss from these catastrophes.

I cannot overlook the disdain manifest to the plight of the poor in Louisiana and the weakness in the early response to the devastation, so arrogantly described as a Third World situation.

No one can dispute the fact that the African American influence on the culture and vibrancy of New Orleans is the most pervasive, has giving heart and soul to this unique city.

HONoured

Tonight, I am honoured to receive this high and special award of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation.

I do so with a sense of humility, yet gratified that my efforts have received the recognition of such a distinguished organization.

I do so on behalf of my colleagues who serve with me in the Caribbean and, as incumbent Chairman of the Group of 77 and China, a Group which embraces every sovereign nation on the Mother Continent of Africa.

Many decades ago, Marcus Mosiah Garvey implored us to redress the inequities of our history and change irreversibly the cruel imbalance that our people have suffered in the economic arena and social development, at both the global and domestic levels.

We are yet to complete that mandate.

The uphill climb we face, likening us once to children of Sisyphus, must not deter us.

To quote Maya Angelou: "History, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be un-lived, but if faced with courage, need not be lived again."

BUILDING A JUST WORLD

It has been my passionate resolve throughout my public life to engage all my energies and my intellect in the struggle to build the global framework where industrialized countries and developing nations alike have an equal voice in the determination of how best we protect and share the resources of the only planet where human life exists;

That we recognize there can be no lasting peace so long as a few seek to perpetuate political and social dominance to the detriment of those who have been marginalized far too long.

Injustice anywhere threatens justice everywhere.

Why should we continue to spend trillions of dollars and devote so much of our professional and technical skills to making armaments and weapons of mass destruction when people are dying of hunger, when lives are cut short by malaria, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and infectious diseases?

Wherever we operate, in the political sphere, no matter what continent or island, let us recognize that the prevention of genocide, the successful fight against terrorism, the preservation of our global environment are imperatives.

ONE HUMAN RACE

I see my brothers and sisters in the CBC as stalwart partners in the struggle to promote economic self-reliance, democratic governance and social upliftment to fulfill the needs of our citizens.

Together we must continue to strive for unity of purpose and action among us. We seek together to fashion a single World which we can inhabit and where, irrespective of gender, age, religious creed, or colour, we can all live in harmony together, because we all belong to the human race.

I congratulate you for all you are doing to nurture our confidence in ourselves. I congratulate the Foundation for this evening's splendid and unforgettable ceremony.

In closing, let me quote from Genesis:

"Behold they are one people, and they all have the same language. And this is what they began to do, and now nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them. [Genesis 11:6]."

May the Almighty continue to guide and bless us all.

SUPPORTING GOLD STAR MOTHERS DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.J. Res. 61, Supporting the Goals and Ideals of Gold Star Mothers Day. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this important resolution, which honors the mothers of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation.

We often invoke the sacrifices of our nation's fallen in general. Seldom do we take the time to thank them and their families individually. In June and July of this year, I joined 21 other members from both sides of the aisle to read the names of each of our fallen on the house floor. I am pleased to have this opportunity to recognize an thank the mothers of these individual heroes.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt once wrote to the mother of a fallen serviceman, "He stands in the unbroken line of Patriots who have dared to die that freedom might live, and grow and increase its blessings. Freedom lives, and through it he lives, in a way that humbles the undertakings of most men."

Organizations such as American Gold Star Mothers keep the memory of these heroes alive, as they help fellow mothers and family members of the fallen work through the grief of losing a loved one. They are also actively involved in their communities, visiting VA hospitals, helping veterans with claims to the Veterans Administration and volunteering at patriotic and memorial services throughout the year.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to echo the words of President Abraham Lincoln, who wrote to the mother of five fallen soldiers in the Civil War: "I pray that our heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the cherished memory of the

loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom."

We owe gold star mothers and their families a debt that can never be fully repaid. I hope all Americans will take this opportunity to recognize and thank America's Gold Star Mothers.

CONGRATULATING COMMISSIONER
NANCY WHITE

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Commissioner Nancy White, who is the recipient of the 2005 Alexander Macomb Woman of the Year Award from the March of Dimes.

Nancy White has dedicated her life to educating and improving her community. After Mrs. White received her Bachelor's degree from Michigan State University and her Master's degree from Wayne State University, she began her 22-year career in the Fraser Public School District. She served as a teacher, counselor, and coach.

In 1992, Mrs. White was elected by the people of Fraser and southern Clinton Township as their representative on the Macomb County Board of Commissioners. Since then, she has dedicated the last seven years to the County Board. Her strong leadership was recognized by her fellow board members and she was elected in January 2005 to serve a two-year term as chair of the Macomb County Board of Commissioners.

Mrs. White is committed to efficient and responsive County government. She lives out this commitment by creating a Strategic Visioning Task Force, a forum for Mayors throughout the County and endeavoring to work on a bipartisan basis. She was the Co-Chair of a County-wide effort to defend the County's military installations in the recent BRAC process. She has traveled to the Middle East on a trade mission with other government and business leaders from Southeastern Michigan.

Mrs. White's excellent leadership skills are not only utilized on the Macomb County Board of Commissioners. She served as chair of the Macomb County Community Mental Health Board and co-chair of the Clinton Township American Red Cross Blood Drive.

In 2002, the community acknowledged Mrs. White's leadership and commitment. She was awarded The Woman of Distinction Award from the Girl Scouts of America for her many outstanding contributions as a mentor and community leader.

Mr. Speaker, I have been honored to work in collaboration with Mrs. White over a number of years and to see first hand her commitment and devotion to improving communities throughout Macomb County. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Commissioner Nancy M. White as she receives this distinguished award.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 45th Anniversary of the Republic of Cyprus. It was on October 1, 1960, that Cyprus became an independent republic after decades of British colonial rule.

I am very fortunate and privileged to represent Astoria, Queens—one of the largest and most vibrant communities of Greek and Cypriot Americans in this country. Among my greatest pleasures as a Member of Congress are participating in the life of this community and the wonderful and vital Cypriot friends that I have come to know.

As a full-fledged member of the European Union, Cyprus is playing a vital role in European affairs while also strengthening relations with the United States. On July 25, the United States and the Republic of Cyprus signed a reciprocal Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) Ship Boarding Agreement, which is aimed at preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Cyprus was the first EU member to sign this agreement. Earlier this month Cyprus became a signatory to the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. Finally, in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, Cyprus offered both its condolences and assistance to the victims of this horrible disaster.

I am saddened that the commemoration of Cyprus' Independence Day this year, as in the past, is clouded by the fact that Cyprus continues to be illegally occupied by the Turkish military forces, in violation of U.N. Security Council resolutions. On July 20, 1974, Turkey invaded Cyprus, and to this day continues to maintain an estimated 35,000 heavily armed troops. However, I remain hopeful that an end to this division will be achieved.

Cyprus and the United States have a great deal in common. We share a deep and abiding commitment to democracy, human rights, free markets, and the ideal and practice of equal justice under the law. Despite the hardships and trauma caused by the ongoing Turkish occupation, Cyprus has registered remarkable economic growth, and the people living in the Government-controlled areas enjoy one of the world's highest standards of living. Sadly, the people living in the occupied area continue to be mired in poverty.

I am encouraged that since the Turkish occupation regime partially lifted restrictions on freedom of movement across the artificial line of division created by Turkey's military occupation, hundreds of thousands of Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots have crossed the U.N. ceasefire line to visit their homes and properties or areas of their own country that were inaccessible to them for nearly 30 years. The peaceful and cooperative spirit in the person-to-person, family-to-family interactions between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots bodes well for the successful reunification of Cyprus.

In the times we are facing, it is clear that divisions among people create harmful, destructive environments. We must find a peaceful solution to the Cyprus problem. The relation-

ship between Cyprus and the United States is strong and enduring, and we stand together celebrating democracy and freedom.

THE SOCIAL SECURITY COLA
PROTECTION ACT

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, before I was elected to the House of Representatives, I made a promise to thousands of seniors in South Dakota that, if they would send me to Washington, I would fight for them, stand by them, and make their voice heard. To help keep that promise by protecting the retirement income of nearly 100,000 South Dakotans from rising health care costs, the "Social Security COLA Protection Act" was the first piece of legislation I introduced upon my arrival.

Today, I am reintroducing the "Social Security COLA Protection Act" because the situation facing seniors in South Dakota and around the country is just as dire today as it was a year ago.

For retirees who depend on Social Security benefits to live, the only defense against increasing prices for food, clothing and energy is an annual cost-of-living adjustment, or COLA. However, rising Medicare premiums are diminishing the purchasing power of this yearly increase in benefits.

Over the last 5 years, monthly Medicare Part B premiums have nearly doubled. On September 16th, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services announced that Medicare beneficiaries will pay an additional 13 percent out of their Social Security checks in 2006. This marks the third consecutive rise of more than 10 percent and exceeds the 12 percent increase Medicare's trustees predicted in March. Every dollar that goes toward rising Medicare premiums is one less South Dakota's seniors can use to pay for groceries or utility bills.

We're not wealthy in South Dakota. Retirees in South Dakota clip coupons. They put off buying the things they need. They live modestly because that is what they must do to get by. It is no exaggeration to say that retirees in South Dakota need every penny of their COLA. Not just so they can maintain a basic standard of living—but so they can live with dignity.

My legislation protects retirees by ensuring that no more than 25 percent of their COLA can be absorbed by the increase in Medicare premiums. Next year, it would protect 100,000 South Dakotans who otherwise would see their scarce dollars taken from food, clothing and other essential purchases. For those who depend on Social Security to pay their bills, this legislation will help them save enough to buy new clothes, extra medicine or just a plane ticket to visit the grandchildren.

Last Congress, my legislation had the support of 116 members of the House and of prominent advocacy groups for seniors such as the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, the Alliance for Retired Americans and Families USA. I hope that Congress will take up and pass this legislation quickly, because the need for it is real and immediate.

This fall, just as Medicare premiums go up, temperatures in South Dakota will be going down. Seniors will sit at their kitchen tables, reading through the bills, and they may wonder yet again how they are going to make it through the month. We owe it to them to do better. I will work to see that we will.

**FREEDOM FOR VIRGILIO
MARANTA GUELMEZ**

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak about Virgilio Maranta Guelmes, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Maranta Guelmes is a pro-democracy activist and a delegate of the 24th of February Movement. The movement is named for both the commencement of the glorious Cuban War of Independence in 1895, and the day in 1996 when two civilian aircraft carrying four members of the Brothers to the Rescue movement were shot down over international waters by the Cuban dictatorship's fighter jets. The 24th of February Movement desires and struggles for freedom in Cuba.

Because of his belief in freedom and democracy, Mr. Maranta Guelmes has been a constant target of the tyrant's machinery of repression. According to Amnesty International, he was arrested and imprisoned in the totalitarian gulag on December 6, 2002. On May 19, 2002, he was again detained and interrogated by the dictatorship. In that interrogation, he was told to abandon his activities with the 24th of February Movement.

Mr. Maranta Guelmes, knowing full well the heinous repression that awaited him if he continued to advocate for freedom for the people of Cuba, never wavered in his convictions. Unfortunately, on May 18, 2004, in a sham trial, Mr. Maranta Guelmes was sentenced to 3 years in the totalitarian gulag.

Let me be very clear, Mr. Maranta Guelmes is locked in a dungeon because he desires freedom for Cuba. The U.S. State Department describes the conditions in the gulag as, "harsh and life threatening." The State Department also reports that police and prison officials beat, neglect, isolate, and deny medical treatment to detainees and prisoners.

Mr. Speaker, it is unconscionable that anyone, anywhere, is imprisoned in sub-human gulags simply for their belief in truth, freedom and democracy. At the dawn of the 21st century, mankind must no longer tolerate prisoners of conscience in any form, in any place, in any country. My colleagues, we must cry out for the immediate and unconditional release of Virgilio Maranta Guelmes and all prisoners of conscience in the totalitarian Cuba.

TRIBUTE TO DR. PAUL PEPE

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to talk today about

a remarkable, courageous man who has dedicated himself to improving the lives of those around him. Dr. Paul Pepe is a fine member of my home community of Dallas, Texas, and I am proud to announce that he has been recognized for his contribution in emergency medical services from the American College Emergency Physicians. The award, presented by U.S. Surgeon General Richard Carmona in Washington, D.C. on Monday, September 26, 2005, recognized Dr. Pepe for his achievements during a 30 year career that included education and service to numerous city, state and federal agencies.

Dr. Pepe, a protégé of Drs. Leonard Cobb and Michael Copass from the University of Washington in Seattle, may be best known as one of the lead authors of the initial 1991 American Heart Association publications.

Dr. Pepe co-authored a comprehensive Early Childhood Center curriculum for K through 12 school children, and he championed statewide training of middle school students using high school seniors as instructors in both CPR and automated external defibrillator use. In addition, he helped to forge the exact language and subsequent passage of one of the most liberal Good Samaritan Laws ever enacted in any state regarding AED use by bystanders. Translating all of these ambitious CPR initiatives into major media events—and ultimately thousands of lives saved—Dr. Pepe has been labeled in some educational circles as a "Mentor to Millions."

Dr. Pepe has been a longstanding member of the National Advanced Cardiac Life Support and Basic Life Support committees of the American Heart Association. He has also served on national ad hoc committees for various AHA activities including its upcoming National Mass CPR Training Day initiative.

In addition to his AHA duties, Dr. Pepe also serves as the Emergency Medicine and Trauma Consultant to such diverse entities as the White House Medical Unit, ABC News and the National Basketball Association Trainers. Most recently, he trained the U.S. Surgeon General, Dr. David Satcher, and several dozen of his highest ranking senior staff members in CPR and AED use.

A ubiquitous and popular world-wide lecturer and author of hundreds of published scientific papers and abstracts, Dr. Pepe has been featured routinely in many network and prime-time broadcasts. He has won multiple health policy, community service, academic and professional society awards, both here and abroad, and he has provided consultation for multiple foreign governments regarding the coordination of emergency health services.

Dr. Pepe is a dedicated community servant, activist, and leader. He is a tremendous asset to Dallas, and through his tireless work, my home town has become a better place to live and a safer place to grow up. I am proud to join his family, his colleagues and the North Texas community in congratulating Dr. Pepe on a job well done.

**LANCE CORPORAL JOSHUA
BUTLER**

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and distinguish one of America's fin-

est—United States Marine Lance Corporal Joshua Butler of Altoona, PA. Butler, who dreamed of being a U.S. Marine since he was four years old, protected hundreds of his fellow comrades from suicide bombers mounting an attack with trucks, explosives and no regard for human life.

Butler was stationed in Iraq along the Syrian border, and while guarding the base's perimeter from a lookout tower his post was attacked. Butler sprayed the first suicide bomber with 20 or 30 rounds causing him to veer off at the last moment to miss his target. The truck, filled with explosives and manned by a suicide-mission insurgent, crashed through the improvised barrier the Marines had built up along the edge of the base. After being knocked down by the blast, Lance Corporal Butler remained focused, alert and ready. Through the smoke of the blast, he saw a red, suicide-driven fire engine coming toward the base. Butler fired 100 rounds onto the vehicle. After the truck was hit by a grenade, launched by Pfc. Charles Young, its explosives were detonated outside of the base but within 50 yards of Butler. Debris from this blast sprayed the length of 4 football fields and knocked down soldiers as far as 200 yards away. But no Marines were seriously hurt, including Butler.

Lance Corporal Butler's actions saved the lives of hundreds of his fellow Marines and marked a significant victory against the insurgents in Iraq. The suicide bombers mission was thwarted by Butler's courageous and timely reaction. An estimated 21 insurgents were killed that day while 15 were reported wounded.

Lance Corporal Butler—You are a U.S. Marine and a hero, and across the country Americans are proud of your leadership. Thank you for serving when your nation called.

**A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF
APRIL RENETTA LOVE**

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of April Renetta Love of Hope, Arkansas. April was born on May 1, 1985 in Texarkana and passed away this month in Fayetteville, Arkansas. I wish to recognize her life and achievements.

A 2003 honors graduate of Hope High School, April was a junior at the University of Arkansas and was majoring in Political Science, Communications, and African-American Studies.

April was extremely active in a wide array of campus organizations at the University of Arkansas. She was a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, the Order of the Eastern Star Youth Fraternity and Young Democrats. Her interest in politics extended beyond campus and she spent the summer of 2005 interning for the Congressional Black Caucus in the nation's capital, when I had the privilege of meeting this bright and talented young woman. April was also an accomplished musician and served as the church pianist for seven years.

April will forever be remembered for her contagious smile, her leadership and for her commitment to furthering her education. My

deepest condolences go out to her parents, Ira and Magic Love; her sisters, Bridget and Crystal; her brother, Stephen; and her grandparents. April's legacy and spirit will live on in those whose lives she touched.

REMARKS ON RYAN WHITE CARE ACT REAUTHORIZATION

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, Congress will stand by and allow the Ryan White CARE Act to expire. While this does not signify the end to the program, it does underscore our responsibility to conduct hearings and vote on its soon overdue reauthorization. We must act swiftly to ensure that this landmark program, which provides lifesaving treatment to more than half a million persons living with HIV/AIDS each year, be strengthened to meet the changing needs of their care.

New York City has always had a special respect for the opportunities the Ryan White CARE Act affords the city in serving the needs of our HIV/AIDS population. New York City comprises three percent of the nation's population, but more than 16 percent of the nation's AIDS cases. As of December 31, 2003, there were 142,085 cumulative AIDS cases in NYC, and 88,479 City residents diagnosed as Persons Living With HIV/AIDS. Although Ryan White CARE Act is widely considered the payer of last resort for people with HIV/AIDS, it fills much of the void in providing treatment and support services for those who either are uninsured or underinsured, without the necessary resources to access desperately needed care.

We must do better by CARE Act funding. This program has been virtually flat funded for years, and its AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAP) only received a ten million dollar increase in this year's House Labor-HHS bill. Many very low-income people continue to be shut-out from ADAP programs due to states' varying income eligibility levels, which can range from 125 percent to 500 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. Without early, aggressive treatment people living with HIV/AIDS can experience rapid and often irreversible disease progression. Additionally, if care is interrupted drug resistance can develop, which compromises their ability to properly control their health. Now, more than ever, the President should release emergency ADAP funding to help host states care for the estimated 8,000 victims of Hurricane Katrina, who have been displaced from their homes and networks of care.

The President's Principles for Ryan White CARE Act Authorization include some troubling provisions which could have devastating results for communities' ability to provide consistent, appropriate care for persons living with HIV/AIDS. The proposed Severity of Need for Core Services Index will change funding formulas to take into account the availability of other resources, like state and local funding streams. This is bad public policy as it punishes states that have taken responsibility for their local HIV care and creates a powerful disincentive for other states to prioritize funding for HIV funding in future years, if they think

the federal government will just cover the gap. No state spends more than New York does to care for its residents with HIV and AIDS—over \$3 billion last year. New York has always viewed this funding as a partnership between the state, cities and federal government and should not lose out on future federal funding for being at the forefront of providing progressive services and treatment.

Secondly the President's proposal for a minimum of 75 percent of Ryan White CARE Act funding to be spent on core medical services should be seriously revisited. While there is no question that appropriate funding should be directed towards medical care, localities that benefit from comprehensive state funding for medical care, might better serve patients with using the funding for transportation to medical visits, emergency housing assistance for homeless patients, and other key services. This hard number fails to reflect the different resources that cities like New York utilize to care for their patients, and the changing needs of the HIV/AIDS patient population.

As a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, I look forward to holding hearings on the reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act. We must work together with the Senate to strengthen and preserve the foundation of the Ryan White CARE Act program with the compassion and thoughtful consideration it deserves.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to celebrate a true milestone in our Nation's history, the 85th anniversary of our Constitution's 19th amendment, guaranteeing that "the rights of citizens to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex."

The efforts of pioneers in the fight for women's suffrage such as Susan B. Anthony, Alice Paul, Lucretia Mott, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, served not only to advance women's rights, but also promoted equality for all Americans.

I would also like to acknowledge the contributions made by Business and Professional Women/USA during the suffrage movement, most notably the organization's oldest Michigan chapter, located in Saginaw. These women were dedicated to protecting and defending human dignity. Those beliefs remain today with the current members of BPW, who continue to strive for the betterment of women in society.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the 109th Congress to please join me in recognizing the 85th anniversary of the 19th amendment to the Constitution. It has helped make our country a better place in which to live.

INTRODUCING THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL EQUITY ACT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my good friend, Representative HILDA SOLIS, and Senators KERRY and DURBIN to introduce the Public Health and Environmental Equity Act.

It has been 5 weeks since Hurricane Katrina devastated the lives and landscapes of the gulf coast region. The floodwaters that ravaged Louisiana, Alabama, and Mississippi in the last month have finally begun to recede and America and the world have become all too aware of the losses suffered by the citizens of these areas. They have lost family and loved ones. Most have lost homes, jobs, and businesses. And in their greatest hour of need, they were left abandoned and forgotten. Our own President was forced to admit the shortcomings of the so-called "relief" effort.

While nothing can ever make up for the misery endured in the first days of the storm, there is plenty we must do to alleviate additional harm as rebuilding begins. Understandably, residents are anxious to get back to their homes and to their lives. Anxious contractors with a different agenda have vowed that such a mission can be fulfilled sooner rather than later. They want us to believe that homes, buildings, and schools fully submerged from weeks of raw sewage, pesticides, solvents, decaying corpses, and teaming with mold will magically become clean and safe to move into.

How will they accomplish such a feat? Their plan: Have the EPA completely waive every environmental mandate that has protected us for 35 years. Simply put, this means that anyone involved in Katrina rebuilding will be allowed to dump where they want, pollute where and when they want, and contaminate for as long as they want. It's a quick-but-dirty solution for cleanup and reconstruction with no regard for maintaining clean air, water, or soil. Once in place, environmental loopholes attributed to Katrina recovery in the gulf region will also be the excuse for any company to create toxic breeding grounds anywhere in the country. Your backyard could be next.

Mr. Speaker, waiving these long-standing environmental regulations is an irresponsible and unconscionable way to jump-start the rebuilding process. What we'll end up with are toxic residues that will sicken these communities for years to come. Residents who return to their homes under such EPA waivers will face a lifetime of illness and uncertainty about the water they drink, the air they breathe, and the soil they walk on every day. Failure to fully implement current environmental health and safety regulations jeopardizes every human and ethical standard we claim to hold dear. Loosening these environmental safeguards will further victimize those still struggling to regain their lives.

We know what Katrina's victims look like; we know their income level; and we know why they've been ignored. To roll back highly regarded environmental protections will add insult to an already festering injury of racial and social injustices. The citizens of the gulf coast

want the same things the rest of America strives for—a safe place to live, work, and raise their families. They expect their elected officials to uphold laws that secure these basic necessities. They deserve our assurances and our actions that the value of their lives are no longer a back burner issue.

Katrina's victims already survived the worst natural disaster in modern American history. They've already survived a relief effort that can only be described as shameful. Why on earth would we create a man-made catastrophe and tell them it's in their best interest?

The resolution which we are introducing today makes Congress's commitment clear and obvious that we do not believe that Katrina—or any other natural disaster—should be used to justify rolling back and completely waiving environmental regulations. I ask for our colleagues' support and urge the House to move this resolution swiftly.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 2123, SCHOOL READINESS
ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF
HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA
OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 2123, as this bill is a remarkable improvement on last Congress's version and includes important provisions which will benefit all Head Start participants. I will, however, vote against this legislation if Leadership succeeds in inserting a "poison pill" that, if adopted, would mark the first time Congress would permit organizations that run Head Start programs to discriminate against job applicants solely on the basis of their religion.

While by no means a perfect bill, this legislation stands as a testament to the progress that can be made through bipartisan cooperation. This bill contains none of the controversial provisions from last Congress, such as block granting or universal competitions. Instead, H.R. 2123 contains several provisions which will benefit all Head Start participants, and I am proud of this fact and have worked hard with my Colleagues towards achieving these goals.

In particular, H.R. 2123 provides additional resources for Migrant and Seasonal Head Start (MSHS) program expansion, which will allow for thousands of farm-worker children to exit the fields and enter the classroom. This expansion includes a 5% funding floor for Migrant and Seasonal Head Start. In step with this funding floor, the Secretary is required to compose a report determining how well we are serving children eligible for Migrant and Seasonal Head Start. The bill also requires a study on the status of limited-English-proficient children and their families in Head Start and Early Head Start programs. These provisions and many others included in the bill before us today will benefit all Head Start students and families and set kids on the right foot for competing with their peers throughout their school years.

Mr. Chairman, it is evident that the provisions in this year's bill will help millions of Head Start students and their families' edu-

cational, personal, and economic well-being. I ask, why, then, are we considering inserting a poison pill into this remarkable piece of legislation? The amendment offered by Mr. BOUSTANY would severely block the program's participants, children and parents, from climbing out of poverty to self-sufficiency. This is simply unacceptable in light of what Katrina has unearthed as a systemic problem in our country: widespread and unresolved poverty.

This amendment would prevent volunteer Head Start parents from moving off the welfare rolls into self-sufficiency as Head Start certified teachers, simply because they are the wrong religion. This outcome is not needed, not wanted, and definitely not helpful to the millions living in poverty today.

Additionally, this amendment also sets a dangerous precedent: such a change would allow faith-based organizations to discriminate not just on the basis of a person's religious affiliation, but also on how closely they follow the tenets of that religion. This could include religious beliefs on medical treatments, marriage, pregnancy, gender, and even race.

Don't let Head Start fail by excluding qualified teachers and engaged parents from Head Start programs run by faith-based organizations. I urge my colleagues to vote no on final passage if this dangerous amendment passes.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND
IDEALS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AWARENESS MONTH

SPEECH OF
HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY
OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support all the women and children who have survived domestic violence, and for all the women whose lives have been claimed by domestic abuse. It is abhorrent that violence within our homes continues to be prevalent today—nearly one in four American women report being physically or sexually abused by a husband or boyfriend at some point in their lives. Violence against women is a profound and extremely pervasive problem, striking across borders, across economic, cultural and ethnic backgrounds, and across all age groups. It is an epidemic that affects not only women, but their children and families as well.

As we recognize National Domestic Violence Awareness Month this October, it is time that we actively work to end violence against women. I would like to draw special attention to immigrant women who continue to lack access to many resources that would enable them to escape domestic abuse. While we were able to include many critical provisions of relief to battered immigrant women when we reauthorized the Violence Against Women Act in 2000, there are still battered immigrants, like asylees and the elderly, who are forced to remain in abusive relationships, unable to appeal for protection from law enforcement and the courts for fear of deportation. I have introduced H.R. 3188, the Immigrant Victims of Violence Protection Act, which will allow them to safely escape their abusers without fear of deportation or other negative immigration consequences. This legislation would also provide

a safety net for battered legal immigrants and their children by allowing them access to work permits, health insurance, food, and other benefits required to escape their abuser and gain economic independence.

It is time that we change attitudes in this country so that violence against women is no longer tolerated. We are devoting extensive resources to ending terror around the world, while at the same time one in four women continue to be terrorized by domestic violence and sexual assault in their lifetime. It is time that we devote the same amount of resources to ending a form of violence that terrorizes over half the population of this globe. We must teach our sons that violence of any kind is unacceptable; we must give our daughters encouragement and support so they have the self-esteem to leave abusive relationships; and we must start to envision a world free of violence against women. I believe that if we all work together, we can turn this vision into reality. But it is going to take resources, hard work, and, most of all, incredible resolve. I challenge my colleagues to make the fight against domestic violence a top priority, and together we can make this country a safer place for our mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
FRANK C. LEAL ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL UPON BEING NAMED A
NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL
OF EXCELLENCE

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, on September 22nd, the Frank C. Leal Elementary School of Cerritos was awarded the distinct honor of being named a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. Frank C. Leal Elementary joins 33 other public schools and seven additional private schools in the State of California who have also been named National Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence. I commend the efforts of each and every one of these outstanding California schools.

The Blue Ribbon Schools is a national recognition program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education. The 22-year-old program encourages states to nominate public and private kindergarten through grade twelve schools that are either academically superior or demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement.

This Blue Ribbon distinction duly recognizes the level of excellence that is achieved every day at Frank C. Leal Elementary School of Cerritos. This school is setting a national example of what it takes to be a superior learning environment. It is absolutely essential that our schools continue to strive for excellence, if we want our students to realize their academic potential.

Frank C. Leal Elementary School is a visual and performing arts magnet school, and is a testament to the impact that an arts education can have on a student's academic achievement. I commend the hard working teachers and school administrators of Frank C. Leal Elementary School of Cerritos for their contributions and commitment to our young people. I

also would like to recognize the parents and our community for supporting the Frank C. Leal Elementary School's efforts to help every child reach their full potential.

Education has always been tied to the promise of equality and opportunity for all and the ABC Unified School District and the community of Cerritos have worked hard to give every student an equal chance to succeed. Congratulations to the Frank C. Leal Elementary School of Cerritos and the ABC Unified School District for this incredible achievement!

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE CAPITOL PURSUIT DRIVE

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, the American League of Lobbyists and Men's Wearhouse, have created the annual Capitol PurSUIT Drive and through their efforts to help citizens in Washington D.C. and nationwide to obtain employment; and

Whereas, The 2nd Annual Capitol PurSUIT Drive event will be held on October 5 from 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. in the Rayburn Foyer; and

Whereas, the American League of Lobbyists and Men's Wearhouse, should be commended for their excellence in service to the local community for their unwavering dedication to helping individuals acquire the necessary skills and attire to pursue a career; and

Whereas the First Annual Capitol Pursuit Drive successfully collected over 7,000 suits as tax deductible donations in under four hours on Capitol Hill and the recent events in the affected Gulf Coast region have created an additional need by displaced residents.

Therefore, I join with Members of Congress and their staff in honoring and congratulating the Capitol PurSUIT Drive for its outstanding mission and efforts.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, due to preparations for Hurricane Rita in my district, I unfortunately missed the following votes on the House floor on Friday, September 22, 2005.

I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been able to vote that day, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 488 (Sauder Amendment to H.R. 2123), 489 (Stearns Amendment to H.R. 2123), 491 (Musgrave Amendment to H.R. 2123), 492 (Boehner Amendment to H.R. 2123), and rollcall vote No. 493 (Final Passage of H.R. 2123, School Readiness Act). I strongly support these amendments and the bill because they take important steps to prepare children for success in school.

I also ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been able to vote that day, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall vote No. 490 (Davis (D-IL) Amendment to H.R. 2123).

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF JUDGE CONSTANCE BAKER MOTLEY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the invaluable contributions of Judge Constance Baker Motley. She died of congestive heart failure at NYU Downtown Hospital in New York City yesterday at the age of 84. Judge Motley was a woman of many firsts and true pioneer in the civil rights struggle.

Judge Motley was a woman with numerous accomplishments. She helped write briefs in the groundbreaking Brown vs. Board of Education case in 1954 and she headed a legal campaign that opened admission at the University of Mississippi to James Meredith in 1962. Meredith was the first African American student to attend that school. By the time he graduated in 1963, Constance Motley had made 22 trips to Mississippi on behalf of the case. Later that year, she helped 1,100 black children be reinstated in Birmingham after they

were expelled for taking part in a demonstration. Judge Motley also served as the first black woman in the New York State Senate in 1964 and the first woman borough president for Manhattan.

In 1966, Judge Motley was sworn in by President Lyndon Johnson as the first African American woman to serve as a federal judge. She ruled on a number of cases that dealt with everything from discrimination in housing to denial of benefits to Medicaid recipients to prisoners who had been unconstitutionally confined to solitary confinement for more than a year.

Her aspiration for what she termed as "dignity for all people" emerged early. Constance Motley was the ninth of twelve children born to parents from the small Caribbean island of Nevis. At the age of 15, she was not allowed onto a public beach because she was black. It was then that she began reading all she could about black history. She later became president of her N.A.A.C.P. youth council.

Three years later, Clarence W. Blakeslee, a white philanthropist, heard Constance Motley giving a speech at an African-American social center. He was so moved by her stately oration that he offered to finance her aspirations for a law degree.

Judge Motley attended Fisk University in Nashville, my alma mater, then transferred to New York University. In 1946, she graduated from Columbia School of Law and became a volunteer at the N.A.A.C.P.'s Legal Defense and Education Fund, which had been founded by Thurgood Marshall.

Known for her dignified manner and quiet approach, Judge Motley was highly regarded as an extraordinary legal tactician. It was also one of the reasons Thurgood Marshall felt that she could be so effective during the Meredith case in 1961. Of the ten cases she argued before the Supreme Court, Judge Motley won nine. She continued to work tirelessly on a variety of civil rights cases. One of the most recent cases included her decision in 1978 allowing a female reporter to be admitted to the New York Yankees' locker room.

Mr. Speaker, Judge Constance Baker Motley was a brilliant advocate for the legal rights of all people. In her autobiography *Equal Justice Under Law*, Motley said defeat never entered her mind. "We all believed that our time had come and that we had to go forward." It is with this faith that she lived, and in this spirit that she will forever be remembered.