

History education is an integral part of the education of future generations of Americans. I would like commend the National History Day program for empowering teachers to improve history education and influencing students to follow Zack Sheehan's exemplary example.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO THE BASCOM MUTUAL TELEPHONE COMPANY ON THE OCCASION OF ITS ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to a special company in Ohio. This year, The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company in Bascom, Ohio, celebrates 100 years of dedicated service.

Mr. Speaker, The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company in Bascom, Ohio, is one of the oldest mutual telephone companies in the State of Ohio. Founded in 1906, The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company has succeeded in providing quality telephone service to the residents of Bascom, Ohio.

Beginning operations on February 22, 1906, The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company, known as Bascom Farmers Mutual Telephone Company from 1916 to 1953, began providing telephone service to the residents of Bascom, Ohio.

At the time of its inception in 1906, The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company began operations with only eighteen members seeking the company's services. Today, The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company, who is a vital component to the telecommunications infrastructure of Northwest Ohio, proudly serves over 940 members.

Throughout the decades, The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company, as a product of Seneca County, has clearly distinguished itself as an innovator and industry leader. Through a dedicated workforce, top-notch facilities, and excellent customer service, The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company has set a benchmark for how to run a successful business.

The real success of The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company comes not only from the technological advancements of its facilities, but from its employees. The management and staff of The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company have indeed provided their customers with the service and dependability that are expected of a first-class company.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to the employees and the legacy of The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company. As all who benefit from this fine establishment gather to celebrate its 100th anniversary of service, I am confident that the excellent employees will continue the successes of The Bascom Mutual Telephone Company into the future.

TRIBUTE TO MOUNT PISGAH
BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the historic Mount Pisgah Baptist Church in Orangeburg, South Carolina as it celebrates its 153rd anniversary on June 25, 2006. Mount Pisgah has been a beacon in times of joy and sorrow for the Orangeburg community, and I congratulate Reverend D. Edward Chaney and his congregation on this significant milestone in the life of the church.

Mount Pisgah Baptist Church began as a gathering of a small group of Christian slaves in 1863. Two years later, this group broke off from the First Baptist Church in Orangeburg. They called their new church Sunny Side Baptist. By 1868, the congregation had grown to fifty members, and two years later they changed the name to Mount Pisgah Baptist Church. The renamed church began to grow in size and its ministry. By 1877, Mount Pisgah boasted a congregation of 283 members.

The 20th century was momentous in the life of Mount Pisgah. Remarkably from 1901 until 2000, the church had only three pastors. Reverend Nelson Nix presided over the congregation from 1900–1945. During his ministry, the first church building burned in 1902. However, Reverend Nix and the congregation rebuilt the structure that is still in use today.

Reverend John D. Rhodes served as Mount Pisgah's pastor from 1945–1968, and was followed by Reverend F.G.S. Everett who led the congregation from 1969–2001. During Reverend Everett's distinguished service, Mount Pisgah was listed on the Registry of Historical Places.

Today, Reverend Chaney presides over a dynamic church that is among the oldest in Orangeburg and South Carolina. The church has added a multipurpose education complex, and more property has been acquired for future expansion. Due to the enormous growth in the church, Reverend Chaney has initiated a Million Dollar Capital Campaign for church improvements and new construction.

Mount Pisgah currently has 17 ministries that include an outreach radio broadcast that reaches far beyond Orangeburg County into neighboring Calhoun, Colleton, and Dorchester counties. The church is also renowned for its music ministry that performs inspired Christmas and Easter concerts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mount Pisgah Baptist Church on its 153rd anniversary. This vibrant church has contributed to the rich history of Orangeburg and South Carolina, and I offer my congratulations and wish Mount Pisgah continued success and Godspeed!

INTRODUCTION OF THE STEEL
FINANCING FAIRNESS ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Steel Financing Fairness Act. This bill

helps our Nation's beleaguered steel industry by stopping the government from forcing American steel workers to subsidize their foreign competitors. Specifically, the bill prohibits the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) and the Export-Import Bank (EXIMBANK) from providing any assistance to countries that subsidize their steel industries. The Steel Financing Fairness Act also instructs the Secretary of the Treasury to reduce America's contribution to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) by a prorated share of the IMF's assistance to countries that subsidize their steel industries.

One of the problems facing America's domestic steel industry is that it must compete with foreign industries that receive subsidies from their governments. Some of these subsidies are explicitly intended to provide these companies with a non-market advantage over American steel producers. The U.S. Government further compounds the damage caused by these subsidies by forcing the domestic steel producers to support their major competitors through taxpayer-funded programs.

For example, according to the most recent figures available, the five countries with the greatest EXIMBANK exposure are all among the top ten exporters of steel and/or steel products to the United States. In fact, EXIMBANK has provided almost \$20 billion of U.S. taxpayer support to these countries.

Meanwhile, OPIC has provided almost \$6 billion of the taxpayers' money to leading steel exporters. Thus, the American taxpayer has provided at least \$26 billion worth of support to the countries that are the leading competitors of the domestic steel industry. This does not count the funds provided these countries by the IMF. Since money is fungible, the practical effect of providing aid to countries which practice industrial policy is to free up resources these governments can use to further subsidize their steel industries. Thus, taxpayer dollars sent to foreign governments and industries can benefit foreign steel manufacturers even if American taxpayer money is not sent to directly benefit those industries.

However, hard as it may be to believe, organizations funded by American taxpayers actually use American tax dollars to directly assist foreign steel producers! For example, among the projects funded by EXIMBANK in recent years is an \$18 million loan guarantee to expand steel manufacturing in Red China.

Ironically, many of the supporters of these foreign giveaways claim to be promoters of free trade. This claim makes as much sense as a supporter of higher taxes and spending claiming to be a fiscally conservative supporter of limited government. Free trade is the peaceful exchange of goods and services across borders unhampered by government interference. Taxing American workers to support their overseas competitors is not free trade. Instead, it is corporatism designed to benefit certain politically powerful interests at the expense of American entrepreneurs and workers.

I have no doubt that America's steel industry can out-compete the steel industry of any country if allowed to compete on a level playing field. Unfortunately, due in part to government policy, today's playing field is in no way level. Congress must end this economically

destructive, immoral, and unconstitutional policy of forcing owners and workers in the domestic steel industry to subsidize their competitors. I therefore call upon my colleagues to cosponsor the Steel Financing Fairness Act.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE CITY OF
WEST ALLIS' 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 100th anniversary celebration of the City of West Allis. I am proud to serve this community, a portion of which lies within the Fourth Congressional District. Happy 100th Birthday to this remarkable community!

The City of West Allis was incorporated in 1906, but this vibrant community's roots go back much further. In the 1820s and 1830s, prominent visitors to the Honey Creek area, now the heart of West Allis, were impressed with its dense woods and abundance of fresh water springs. Settlement proceeded and by 1860, Honey Creek boasted a school, blacksmith shop, post office and chapel that served Baptist and Episcopalian worshippers. In 1891, the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society purchased the land that is now home to the State Fairgrounds, and by 1894, the Milwaukee Street Car Company had extended transportation routes to this destination. The Allis Company moved from the heart of Milwaukee to West Allis in 1900, fueling the engines of economic growth and development. Throughout its history, West Allis has been known for its strong community, numerous recreational amenities, and the work ethic that underlies its industrial economy.

With the decline of the regional manufacturing economy, West Allis has undergone fundamental changes. It is a testament to the strength of this community and its visionary leadership that urban redevelopment initiatives have brought new economic benefits without compromising the community spirit that characterizes West Allis. The award-winning redevelopment of the Allis-Chalmers campus, for example, has preserved the structures of West Allis' industrial history while creating an exciting and unique office park that has rapidly attracted new tenants to the area. The bike path, currently under construction, serves as a reminder that early settlers were attracted by the beautiful natural landscape. The farmers' market, due to open this year, promises to further strengthen residents' ties to the community.

I am proud to represent the community of West Allis, congratulate it on 100 remarkable years, and look forward to continuing to work with its leaders and residents as its revitalization continues.

HONORING THE LIFE AND
ACHIEVEMENTS OF KATHERINE
DUNHAM

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and extraordinary achievements of Katherine Dunham, who passed away on May 21, 2006.

Katherine Dunham was born in Glen Ellyn, Illinois, on June 22, 1909. Her father, Albert Millard Dunham, was a descendant of slaves from Madagascar and West Africa. Her French Canadian mother, Fanny June Taylor, died when Miss Dunham was young. Her father then married Annette Poindexter, a schoolteacher from Iowa, and moved his family to Joliet, Ill., where he ran a dry-cleaning business.

Katherine Dunham became interested in dance at an early age. While a student at the University of Chicago, she formed a dance group that performed in concert at the Chicago World's Fair in 1934 and with the Chicago Civic Opera in 1935–36.

With a bachelor's degree in anthropology, she soon undertook field studies in the Caribbean and in Brazil. By the time she received her M.A. from the University of Chicago, she had acquired a vast knowledge of the dances and rituals of the black peoples of tropical America. (She later took a Ph.D. in anthropology.)

In 1938, she joined the Federal Theatre Project in Chicago and composed a ballet, L'Ag'Ya, based on Caribbean dance. In 1940, she formed an all-black company, which began touring extensively by 1943. Tropics (choreographed 1937) and Le Jazz Hot (1938) were among the earliest of many works based on her research.

Katherine Dunham is noted for her innovative interpretations of primitive, ritualistic, and ethnic dances and her tracing the roots of black culture. Many of her students, trained in her studios in Chicago and New York City, have become prominent in the field of modern dance. She also choreographed for Broadway stage productions and opera—including Aida (1963) for the New York Metropolitan Opera. She also choreographed and starred in dance sequences in such films as Carnival of Rhythm (1942), Stormy Weather (1943), and Casbah (1947).

Dunham also conducted special projects for Chicago black high school students. She served as the artistic and technical director (1966–67) to the president of Senegal; and artist-in-residence, and later professor, at Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, and director of Southern Illinois's Performing Arts Training Centre and Dynamic Museum in East St. Louis, Ill.

Dunham's writings, sometimes published under the pseudonym Kaye Dunn, include Katherine Dunham's Journey to Accompong (1946), an account of her anthropological studies in Jamaica; A Touch of Innocence (1959), an autobiography; and Island Possessed (1969), as well as several articles for popular and scholarly journals.

Except for a brief appearance in 1965, Dunham has not performed regularly since 1962 and has concentrated on her choreog-

raphy. One of her major works was the choreographing and directing of Scott Joplin's opera Treemonisha in 1972. She dissolved her company in 1965 to become advisor to the cultural ministry of Senegal and returned to the United States in 1967.

She left the conventional dance world of New York that year to live and work in East St. Louis at an inner-city branch of the Southern Illinois University, running a school attached to the University and working with neighborhood and youth groups.

The Dunham tradition has persisted. She was considered a woman far ahead of her time. She considered her technique "a way of life." The classes at her Manhattan school—attended by many artists, including Marlon Brando and Eartha Kitt, during the 1940s and the 1950s, were noted for their liberating influence.

Her mastery of body movement was considered "phenomenal." She was hailed for her smooth and fluent choreography and dominated a stage with what has been described as "an unmitigating radiant force providing beauty with a feminine touch full of variety and nuance," otherwise known as the Dunham Technique, which is still practiced today.

Katherine Dunham's intellectual, artistic, and humanitarian contributions have earned her many coveted awards over the years, including the Presidential Medal of Arts, the Kennedy Center Honors, French Legion of Honor, Southern Cross of Brazil, Grand Cross of Haiti, NAACP Lifetime Achievement Award, Lincoln Academy Laureate, and the Urban Leagues' Lifetime Achievement Award. She was also one of 75 women whose lives were celebrated in the book, *I Have A Dream*. Katherine is survived by a daughter, Marie-Christine Dunham-Pratt, who lives in Rome.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Katherine Dunham on her service, her lifetime of experiences and her contribution to the world of dance which serves as an invaluable resource to not only the people of East St. Louis but to the world.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on June 14, 2006, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall 283. The vote I missed was an amendment offered by Mr. OBERSTAR to H.R. 5576.

Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall 283.

TRIBUTE TO JEAN "GENE"
NORMANDIN

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to my dear friend Jean "Gene" Normandin, who passed away on Thursday, May 4, 2006 at the age of 78. Gene was a devoted husband, loving father to his three sons and two daughters, man of compassion, and a