family and friends as a selfless, brave, and a genuine "angel," as his mother, Denise Gionet, described him. He will be dearly missed.

I have requested that an American flag be flown over our United States Capitol in memory of Specialist Daniel Gionet to honor his noble service to our country. This flag will be delivered to his family. Daniel died fighting for the country he loved, alongside comrades he respected, and with the family he adored looking on. Our Nation is humbled and grateful for his sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, I request that we take a moment to recognize Specialist Daniel Gionet, United States Army, who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to his country.

CONGRATULATING LOUIS BUCKALEW ON RECEIVING THE 2006 PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARD

HON. JON C. PORTER
OF NEVADA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 12, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Staff Sergeant Emmanuel Legaspi, who died of injuries sustained in Tal Afar, Iraq on May 7, 2006.

Sergeant Legaspi had lived in the United States for only 15 months when he signed up with the Army. At 32, he was much older than the typical recruit. But for the native of the Philippines, military service was a opportunity to show how much he appreciated a chance at life in America. Sergeant Legaspi, who was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 36th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, Friedberg, Germany, was injured, and later died, when his unit came under enemy small arms fire during combat operations. For his valor, Sergeant Legaspi was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of Staff Sergeant Emmanuel Legaspi. Sergeant Legaspi made the ultimate sacrifice for his country while fighting the War on Terror and defending democracy and freedom.

THE ISSUE OF CRIMINAL ALIENS: HOW THEIR DEPORTATION AFFECTS THEIR HOMELAND

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 12, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD an editorial from the New York CaribNews newspaper dated May 16, 2006 that draws attention to the “long-standing and thorny problems” associated with the deportation of criminal aliens and the resulting initiatives needed to re-integrate them into the society of their Caribbean homeland.

The article addresses Caribbean born individuals who have broken the law in the United States and subsequently banished back to their homeland. There are varying opinions surrounding the re-integration of criminal aliens. Some feel that their return is creating serious problems while others blame the situation on the United States and other countries that deport them.

Mary Kramer, the U.S. Ambassador to several Caribbean nations believes that the deported criminal aliens are no real threat to the Caribbean states and are in fact productive law-abiding citizens. She also asserts that the criminal aliens are not playing a significant role in the upsurge in crime in the Caribbean. Grenada’s Prime Minister, Dr. Keith Mitchell shares his opinion that it is the criminal enterprises that are compartmentalized in the diaspora that has impinged all of its bad ways on the aliens and then deport them back to their regions as hardened criminals. P.J. Patterson, former Prime Minister of Jamaica cautions Ms. Kramer against relying on the U.S. statistics and conclusions reached by U.S. researchers. In this article he shares a concern about the relationship maintained by criminal aliens and gang members abroad.

In the article, the editor offers several solutions to solve the problem of coping with deported criminal aliens. Similar pilot programs have been developed and implemented in other countries. Based on the statistics, there will continue to be an influx of criminal deportees to the Caribbean. If other well-to-do nations are truly interested in the economic and social development of the island-nations they should be prepared to assist financially in the reintegration process for Caribbean criminal aliens.

Mr. Speaker: I submit this interesting and informative editorial from the CaribNews newspaper for submission to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[From the New York CaribNews, May 16, 2006]

CRIMINAL ALIENS: AN EDITORIAL

Just when everyone thought that the question of why undocumented immigrants arriving in the United States was the only item on the table for discussion, we have been jolted back to reality to deal with a long-standing and thorny problem: criminal aliens.

From London, Ottawa, Toronto, Kingston and Bridgetown to New York, Washington and other cities, we are being forced to focus our attention once again on the deportation of persons who have broken the law in the countries to which they have emigrated from the Caribbean.

The trouble is that in deporting immigrants who have committed crimes in the U.S., Canada and the United Kingdom, are creating serious problems for their friends and allies in the Caribbean.

That issue is at the root of a dispute involving the U.S. Ambassador to several nations in the region—Antigua, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Lucia and St. Vincent.

It seems as if Mary Kramer, America’s top diplomat to those island-nations, has convinced herself that not only are the criminal aliens no real threat to the Caribbean states but they are productive law-abiding citizens in their homeland.

Nothing can be further from the truth. Granted, some of them have become productive citizens. Also true, the U.S. has a responsibility to protect its borders and its people from persons, whether native born or immigrants from disrupting the society. And it can do that by enforcing its law.

But to ignore the hard reality of what’s happening in the Caribbean, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana, included, is akin to burying one’s head in the proverbial sand by pretending that boys and girls are being shipped to the region.

That’s unreal.

According to a news agency report, Kramer believes that the deportees are not playing a significant role in the upsurge in crime in the Caribbean. In addition, she wants to get the word out that the U.S. was “not deporting people who go to the U.S. as very small children and learn bad behavior.”

The evidence indicates otherwise. Many of the deportees are native born to parents or to immigrants from the U.S. as underage children and were sent back to their parents and later, when they were adults, deported back to the region. The trouble is that in deporting criminals who have committed crimes in the U.S., Canada and the United Kingdom, are creating serious problems for their friends and allies in the Caribbean.

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French, Spanish and Dutch-speaking nations and territories in the Caribbean.

It’s also a fact, an awful reality that far too many of the deportees are involved in criminal behavior in the region. To deny that, as Kramer seems to do, licence is to engage in ostrich-like conduct. The mistake she made was relying entirely on the statistics which U.S. funded surveys have unearthed.

P. J. Patterson, until recently Jamaica’s longest-serving Prime Minister, cautioned the Ambassador against relying on the data and the conclusions reached by the researchers.

“I don’t think that one can look at it only in narrow statistical terms,” Patterson told this paper. “I say that because very often, especially in areas connected to drugs those who return get involved in leadership of gangs that maintain relationship with gangs that operate abroad and really influence the criminal activities that are taking place in particular communities in which they return.”

Cabinet ministers from St. Lucia, St. Kitts-Nevis, Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Dominica have all made essentially the same complaint. Kramer should stick to the line taken by senior U.S. State Department officials and members of the U.S. Congress who have told Caribbean nations that American authorities are simply following the law and that’s not going to change. To try to defend the bad bit of legislation and its damaging consequences on the Caribbean by denying the obvious isn’t going to solve the problem.

The solution isn’t difficult to figure out. The countries deporting the criminals and those being forced to accept them should sit down and work out a reasonable policy that (1) ensures only Guayanese are deported to Guyana, Haitians to Port au Prince, Jamaicans to Kingston or Dominicans to Santo Domingo and so on; (2) Caribbean nations are given a reasonable amount of time to find out if the deportees are their nationals before they are put on a plane back home; (3) Caribbean nations accept the real truth: U.S. lawmakers and the Bush Administration aren’t going to change the law to stem the flow of deportees; and (4) a resettlement scheme funded by the U.S. and Caribbean nations should be undertaken to ease the re-integration of the deportees back into their birthplaces. Such programs have been developed and implemented on a pilot basis in a few countries and if the organizations involved are to be believed they seem to work. A re-integration effort is needed not only for deportees from the U.S. but from Canada and the United Kingdom and those countries must help too.

Just last week, Tony Blair, the British prime minister, fired his Home Secretary, Charles Clarke because his ministry had failed to deport criminal aliens after they had completed their jail sentences. The criticisms showered on the head of the Blair government and the public’s demand that something about people who enter Britain and then commit crimes were so strong that they were bound to trigger a flood of deportees to the Caribbean, Europe, Africa, the Middle East and the Pacific.

Of the 77,000 inmates in British prisons, 10,113 are from foreign countries, including nearly 2,000 from the Caribbean.

The outcry should serve as a warning to the Caribbean, expect more criminal deportees on its shores and it also cries out for some help from the rich nations. If, as they say, they are interested in the economic and social development of the island-nations then they should be prepared to help, not to undertake the whole resettlement and re-integration effort but offer a helping hand.

COMMENDING DORIS WOOD-LITTLETON FOR HER SERVICE TO THE WOMEN OF THE FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF ALABAMA

HON. JO BONNER
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 12, 2006

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Mrs. Doris Wood-Littleton of Saraland, Alabama, for her service to women of the First Congressional District of Alabama. Mrs. Wood-Littleton is the founder and executive director of the Home of Grace for Women, Inc.

For over 30 years this organization has helped women overcome their drug and alcohol addictions and reinsert them into community life.

Doris Wood-Littleton, a native of Mobile, recognized in the early 1970s that there was no place in the area for women to go to overcome their drug and alcohol addictions. This comprehensive, 12-week program includes chapel services, Bible studies, counseling, and physical exercise. All of these services, combined with the love and support of Doris and her staff, have helped the Home of Grace for Women achieve astounding results.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize Mrs. Doris Wood-Littleton and to commend her for her service. Due to her tireless efforts and compassion, Mrs. Doris Wood-Littleton has made the Home of Grace for Women a wonderful place to help those in need. With her continued work and dedication to the women of the First District of Alabama, the Home of Grace for Women will certainly thrive in the years to come.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT JOHN GRIFFITH

HON. JON C. PORTER
OF NEVADA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 12, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Sergeant John Griffith, who was killed in action May 5, 2006, while trying to rescue other soldiers in the mountains east of Abad in the Kunar province of Afghanistan.

Sergeant Griffith’s Chinook helicopter, to which he was assigned as a door gunner, crashed and none of the 11 men aboard survived. Sergeant Griffith was in the Nevada Third Battalion, 10th Aviation Regiment, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry).

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of Sergeant John Griffith. Sergeant Griffith made the ultimate sacrifice for his country while defending democracy and freedom.

CONGRATULATING LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY AT EUNICE BASEBALL TEAM

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.
OF LOUISIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 12, 2006

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Louisiana State University at Eunice Bengal baseball team on their recent victory in the National Junior College Athletic Association, NJCAA, championship.

The championship tournament culminated June 2, 2006, in Millington, Tennessee. The Bengals’ 3–0 win over defending champion Grand Rapids Community College garnered the NJCAA Division II trophy. This is the first national championship for LSU at Eunice.

The Bengal baseball program should be lauded for the success it has seen in the five years since its establishment. The team’s appearance in the 2006 tournament marks the second time in the program’s brief history that the Bengal baseball team has placed in the national championship. In 2004, the Bengals placed third in the NJCAA Championship in their division.

In addition to the championship title, the Bengals were proud to bring home an individual honor bestowed upon one of the team’s high-achieving members. During the series, sophomore Brett Durand pitched 26 straight innings without allowing a single earned run. His performance earned him the Most Valuable Player award.

The baseball team’s achievements on the field parallel the accomplishments of the school’s educators and administrators, who are realizing their goal of positioning Louisiana State University at Eunice as the premier two-year college in the state.

I would like to thank the head coach Jeff Willis and his players for their hard work and dedication. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the Louisiana State University at Eunice baseball team and wishing the Bengals the best of luck in their future endeavors on and off the field.