

I am pleased to recognize the contributions of Dr. Arya, and wish him continued success in the medical profession. The community of Brooklyn is fortunate to have a medical practitioner with Dr. Arya's background and commitment working at Wyckoff Heights Medical Center.

NATIONAL GUARD HONORED

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the brave men and women of the National Guard were honored at the world premier of Charles Gabriele's "National Guardian's March" presented in Venice, FL, on May 19, 1997, at a concert of the Venice Concert Band directed by Bill Millner. The National Guard in recent years served in Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and in Florida in the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew and Hurricane Opal.

During the concert, U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Steven Solomon, Commander of the 83d Troop Command, presented the Venice Concert Band and Professor Gabriele each with a framed Certificate of Appreciation "for exceptional service to the National Guard." Gabriele is noted worldwide for his classical compositions and patriotic marches, such as "Korea Veterans March," which was performed by the U.S. Army Band for the dedication of the Korean War Memorial in Washington, DC. Also during the program, Sarasota County Commission Chairman Robert Anderson presented the Venice Concert Band and Dr. Gabriele with commendations; and city of Venice Vice Mayor David Farley, Councilmen Earl Midlam, Burt Brown, and Virginia Warren presented them with commendations and a flag of the city of Venice.

Members of the band who performed in the historic premier of the "National Guardian's March" were: Renee Arata, Marilyn Bay, Jan Bonds, Henry Busche, Russell Byron, Fred Capitelli, Harokl Chase, Rogers Cumming, Carmelo Cuscina, Vicki Elmore, Mary Ann Farrell, Jay Fish, Judson, Vincent Gigliotti, Harry Gilmore, Les Gowan, Ed Gremp, Charles Heidorn, Willie Jacus, Bob Kaltenbaugh, David Leath, Carl Linden, Mary Lipton, Julie Mahler, Robert McMullen, Les McRea, Alex Meldrum, Bill Meyer, Rex Morse, Shirley Morse, Mary Mullen, George Olisar, Stanley Ovatt, Fred Ploch, Marilyn Sexton, Jane Sibole, Larry Shields, Ken Sotherlund, Bob Spangle, Missy Thornley, Connie Timm, Michael Torino, Basil Wanshula, Agnes Warfield, Roger Wolfe, and Don Yasso.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding this well-deserved tribute to the National Guard.

TRIBUTE TO FRANK LONARDO

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Frank Lonardo for his vast contributions on behalf of organized labor. Mr.

Lonardo is a 40-year veteran of the International Longshoremen's Association, AFL-CIO. He is the president of ILA 1814 and was reelected International General Organizer at ILA's 1995 convention.

To his credit, Mr. Lonardo has worked his way through the ILA organization. He started working on the docks of Brooklyn as a teenager and throughout his career has served in a number of capacities, including assistant treasurer of the Brooklyn Longshore Credit Union, and as assistant to the president of Local 1814.

Among his other duties, he has served on the executive board of the New York City Central Labor Council and is a trustee of the New York Maritime Ports Council of the Maritime Trades Department. Frank and his wife Patricia are the parents of four children, Jeanine, Frank Jr., Joseph, and Alicia.

COMMEMORATING INDIA'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and ask my colleagues to join with me today in commemorating the upcoming 50th anniversary of Indian independence.

On August 15, 1947, India gained its freedom from British colonial rule and became an independent nation. The Indian peoples struggle for democracy mirrored very much our Nations' own experience. We share a kinship because we believed, then and now, in the same principals and notions of democracy for our citizens. India's great national leader, Mahatma Gandhi, studied American thinkers, such as Emerson and Thoreau, for their ideas, inspiration, and courage to press on with the struggle for democracy. And leaders in America looked to his example of nonviolence in guiding our Nation during its most turbulent civil rights period.

On August 15, 1997, we celebrate half a century of democracy in India which has developed into the largest democracy in the non-Western world. This populous democracy is home to 950 million people and represents a true multiethnic state where 18 major languages and over 100 dialects are spoken. Let us celebrate their commitment to human rights, the rule of law and the principals of peace, and the successful transition of power in that country's most recent parliamentary elections. It is clear to me, as it should be to all here today, India's democratic institutions remain quite strong and we can look forward to many more years of democratic growth and independence.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES E. SIMPSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Mr. Charles E. Simpson for his consistent and competent efforts in the field of corporate reorganizations, divestitures, and workouts.

Presently, Mr. Simpson is in charge of bankruptcy/creditors' rights department of the firm of Windels, Marx, Davies and Ives in New York City. During his professional career, Charles has developed an impressive track record on behalf of clients such as Bancorp, Pantry Pride, Central Railroad, Braniff, Vanguard Oil & Service, and a host of other companies.

Mr. Simpson is a member of numerous boards, including the Brooklyn Red Cross. He served in the U.S. Army, attended Harvard Law School, and received his undergraduate degree from Pepperdine University. I am pleased to highlight Mr. Simpson for his tireless and persistent endeavors.

ALMOR WEST AND PIONEER PARK SCHOOLS EARN AWARD

HON. J.C. WATTS

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, recently the Department of Education announced the selection of elementary and middle schools which were awarded the prestigious Blue Ribbon School Award. I am proud to announce that two schools from Lawton, OK, have been recognized.

I am delighted to congratulate Pioneer Park Elementary School and Almor West Elementary School on this great achievement.

These schools display the qualities of excellence that are necessary to prepare our young people for the challenges of the next century. Blue Ribbon School status is awarded to schools which have strong leadership; a clear vision and sense of mission that is shared by all connected with the school; high quality teaching; challenging, up-to-date curriculum; policies and practices that ensure a safe environment conducive to learning; a solid commitment to parental involvement; and evidence that the school helps all students achieve high standards.

This is an honor that is vigorously sought by thousands of schools across the Nation. We are so very proud of the students and teachers, the parents and administrators, and all at Pioneer Park and Almor West Elementary Schools who have been selected for this distinguished recognition.

TRIBUTE TO DE COSTA HEADLEY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure and privilege to honor Mr. DeCosta Headley for his contributions in the community of Brooklyn. Mr. Headley is the founder of the Rosetta Gaston United Democratic Club and a dynamic player in the political and economic affairs of the communities of Brownsville and east New York.

DeCosta was raised in Brownsville and east New York, and has been instrumental in providing college scholarships for youth, jobs for community residents, and full services for senior citizens.

As an entrepreneur, Mr. Headley is the president of Diversified Flintlock Corp., a general contracting company. His company has built numerous medical centers, low-income affordable housing units, and has just recently completed a senior citizen housing unit of Berean Missionary Baptist Church in Brooklyn's east New York neighborhood, and a branch of the Carver Federal Savings Bank in Harlem.

DeCosta has been widely recognized for his civil, political, and corporate endeavors. I am pleased to commend his efforts and recognize his vast contributions.

TRIBUTE TO OFFICER WILLIAM
COLEMAN COOK AND OFFICER
ROBERT VARGAS

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is indeed a distinct honor to join with our community on July 11, 1997 to pay tribute to two of Dade County's finest, Officer William Coleman Cook and Officer Robert Vargas, who sacrificed their lives in the line of duty.

When he responded to a domestic disturbance on Wednesday May 16, 1979, 25-year-old Officer William Coleman Cook was already a 6-year veteran of the Metro-Dade Police Department. Officer Cook was shot and killed in the process of apprehending a U.S. Army deserter who had shot his wife, another woman, and critically wounded two other Metro-Dade officers.

Officer Robert Vargas had just celebrated his 28th birthday on February 4, 1997 when he was assigned to a robbery task force as part of Dade County's Operation Clean Sweep. On February 7, he responded to a call for assistance from fellow officers in pursuit of fleeing robbery suspects. While en route to assist his colleagues, Officer Vargas collided with two vehicles as he attempted to avoid a wheelchair bound individual along the way. His car was struck head-on by another vehicle, and he died instantly on the scene.

Officers William Cook and Robert Vargas represent the best and the noblest of our Dade County Police Department. They put their lives on the line on behalf of our community and risked their own safety. Their ultimate sacrifice truly exemplifies the willingness and readiness with which they served and protected us—above and beyond the call of duty.

The dedication and commitment to duty shown by Officer Cook and Officer Vargas is a great legacy they have forever bequeathed to our community. We owe a debt of gratitude to them and the loved ones they left behind.

Public servants to the very core, Officers Cook and Vargas truly epitomize the genuine bravery and heroism of which the great soldier, Gen. Douglas MacArthur, spoke when he said, "They only are fit to live—those who are not afraid to die."

TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY WATSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Anthony Watson for his outstanding contributions to the health care community. Mr. Watson is the president and chief executive officer of the Health Insurance Plan of Greater New York [HIP], one of the largest health maintenance organizations [HMO's] and the largest HMO in the northeastern United States.

HIP is celebrating its 50th anniversary and Anthony Watson has played a pivotal role for HIP since 1985. Anthony has almost 20 years of experience in major public health agencies. He was formerly the supervising public health adviser at the Centers for Disease Control [CDC], the former deputy director of the New York City Comprehensive Health Planning Agency, in addition to having served as an instructor in health planning at the Herbert J. Lehman College of the City University of New York. Anthony has received numerous accolades and awards. He serves on various boards.

Mr. Watson resides in New York City with his wife, Desiree, and their two children, Alayja and Sheridan.

A TRIBUTE TO DAVID MAYER

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding individual, David Mayer of Franklin, WI. On July 5, 1997, David was honored by the Franklin Civic Celebrations Commission with a moving recognition ceremony highlighting his many years of dedicated service to his community.

David was born in the town of Franklin in the fall of 1918. For many years he was a partner with his brothers in a business founded by his father, Robert Mayer. He is a World War II veteran who has raised four children with his wife, Doris.

David was first elected as a Franklin supervisor in 1948 following the retirement of his father. He was responsible for many of the early accomplishments in the growing community. The town's first fire truck was brought to Franklin with David's help. That same truck was in Franklin's Fourth of July Parade this year.

David was a vital part of Franklin's city incorporation in the mid-1950's, going house to house to collect signatures from supporters of the incorporation. In the city's first election on October 2, 1956, he was elected as an alderman, and for the next 40 years he would serve under 7 mayors until his retirement in 1993.

As an alderman, David was active on many boards and commissions. He served as the council president and was also a member of the 4th of July Commission, the board of public works, and the library board. David was also an active member of the Franklin Historical Society.

I am proud to say that I know David Mayer. He has always been a man of integrity, warmth, and sincerity. Congratulations, David, on this ceremony. You truly deserve it.

TRIBUTE TO BRIAN DOUGLAS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, Brian Douglas of Cablevision of New York City has been a vital contributor in the field of telecommunications. As the public affairs manager for Cablevision he is responsible for government relations, community affairs, and public relations.

His duties include administration of the company's franchisee requirement with the city of New York, dealing with elected officials, educational outreach, and responding to the public and the press.

Brian has been employed by Cablevision since 1988 and is formerly a sales representative for Time Warner's Brooklyn Queens Division. He holds a B.A. in television and radio from Brooklyn College and graduate degree in mass communications from Drake University. Brian is also a member of the National Association of Minorities in Communications [NAMIC]. I am pleased to commend Brian for his numerous contributions and to introduce him to my House colleagues.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. MINA
SARA BARRETT

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my constituents and the students and faculty of SUNY College at Old Westbury, NY, as they honor Mina Barrett for outstanding professional and public service. Dr. Barrett was born in New York City in 1948 and at a very early age established her academic credentials. She was an honor student at Ocean-side High School and received her graduate and undergraduate degrees at the State University of New York at Stony Brook in the field of psychology.

In 1975, Dr. Barrett came to SUNY College at Old Westbury and became one of the founders of the Psychology Department. Rising to the position of associate professor, Dr. Barrett immediately became active on a variety of academic committees. Yet to the great benefit of both the academic and general communities of the greater New York metropolitan area, Dr. Barrett embarked upon a course of community service that would serve as a model for effective community activism.

Recognized for her deep understanding of the human mind, Dr. Barrett was appointed as a Red Cross Disaster mental health psychologist and became codirector of the Nassau County Chapter of the Red Cross for mental health. It was in 1994 that she was called upon by the city of Los Angeles to serve in an assisting office in the city's tragic earthquake. For her service rendered to the city of Los Angeles she received the Henri Dunant Humanitarian Award. Her services were again utilized