

who have made important contributions to providing opportunity to millions of citizens who have suffered discrimination. It is not a very large hall of fame and several of those in it are people whose names or contributions are not well known to the American people, because they did not seek to draw public attention to themselves or seek acclaim for their work.

One of those people is Judge Robert L. Carter who was Thurgood Marshall's chief deputy in bringing the case of *Brown v. Board of Education* and other landmark cases that started the legal revolution in civil rights and then went on to a distinguished career as a federal judge in New York. Bob Carter was my first boss at the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. He is celebrating his 80th birthday at an event in New York City that starts in a few minutes and that is the reason I can't stay with you this evening.

Another of the people in my hall of fame is Ham Fish. Although I had met him before, my first substantial encounter with Ham Fish came under somewhat dramatic circumstances in 1981. I was working with the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights in seeking a reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 which many people think is the most effective piece of civil rights legislation passed in this century. But in 1981 we were in a tough fight because many in Congress thought the time had come to end the special provisions of the Voting Rights Act. An agreement that had been made by civil rights forces with another Republican member of Congress fell apart just as the House Judiciary Committee was to meet to consider the bill. Mr. Fish was a senior member of the committee and a supporter of the extension of the Voting Rights Act, but he had not been intimately involved with the legislation. I spent all night with other civil rights lawyers redrafting the bill and Rep. Don Edwards arranged for me to see Mr. Fish at 10 am, just before the Committee was scheduled to meet.

I approached the meeting with some trepidation. What would Rep. Fish think about our coming to him at the last moment? Would he be able to master the details of a complicated piece of legislation in so short a time and serve as its chief Republican spokesman?

In his book *Giantkillers*, Mike Pertschuk describes what happened:

"Taylor, on three hours sleep, briefed Fish just 15 minutes before the Committee meeting. Fish, a quick study, quickly grasped the essential elements and later deftly defended the bill in committee as if he had spent all night writing it."

The legislation passed and Fish proved "an eloquent advocate."

Afterwards, I thought back on how remarkable that meeting had been. The typical member of Congress of whatever political persuasion would have spent at least some time berating me for coming to him only when we were in dire straits (and would have had some justification for saying so). Ham Fish didn't waste any time massaging his ego. Instead, he asked a few incisive questions about the bill until he was satisfied he could support it and serve as its spokesman. He knew that there was an important job in fighting voting discrimination still to be done and he kept his eye on the ball.

That first meeting in many ways typified the relationship we came to enjoy over more than a dozen years. During those years, Ham Fish was the Republican leader in the House responsible for passing several pieces of landmark civil rights legislation—including the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1988, the Fair Housing Amendments of 1988, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Civil

Rights Act of 1991. It is fair to say that those laws have benefitted millions of people—people of color, women, disabled people, older people. The laws did not give people special favors or breaks; rather they enable them to remove barriers to achieving their potential and to their ability to live in dignity. And though few may know his name, all of these millions owe a debt to Ham Fish for his leadership in passing these laws. Indeed, all of us who have led advantaged lives owe Ham a debt for enabling us to live in a society that is fairer, more just, less marked by ugly prejudice than the world inhabited by our forebears.

But while I think about these great achievements, I also think about the personal qualities of Ham Fish. He had both a first rate mind and traits of modesty and humility. That is a rare enough combination in the general population and it is almost unheard of among politicians. Often, in his office or in a committee meeting or on the floor of the House, someone would put forth a proposition that would not bear scrutiny. Instead of challenging the person aggressively, Ham would get a twinkle in his eye and a slight hint of a smile and would then ask in gentle, matter-of-fact tones a question or two that would expose the flaws in the speaker's argument. And that was his manner with people from all parts of the political spectrum. I sometimes brought lawyers from our civil rights coalition into his office who were very bright people, but who may have been off on a tangent that was not realistic or sensible. Ham brought them back to earth. In fact, although I don't like to admit it, I may have been a victim of that twinkle and amused smile once or twice myself.

The other legislative leader who comes to mind whose manner was similar was Phil Hart from Michigan—another member of my private hall of fame. Both he and Ham Fish genuinely deserve the appellation used so freely in the Congress—gentleman.

This is not to say that Ham Fish was modest to the point of self-abasement. He took a quiet pride in his work on civil rights. I remember how touched he was when the NAACP decided to honor him for his leadership. He shared a draft of his acceptance speech with a couple of us because he wanted to be sure that he was conveying adequately how important the cause was and how appreciative he was of the honor.

Ham Fish was also courageous. By the 1980s, civil rights legislation, although vitally needed, was not popular in many places. Although there were 40 or so Republicans in the House who joined with Ham Fish in providing the critical votes for civil rights laws, by the mid-80s almost none of them were on the House Judiciary Committee. That meant that Ham walked a lonely path. Often, under circumstances when we would ordinarily meet with staff, we met with Mr. Fish alone because of concerns about the divided loyalties of the committee staff. That isolation had to be difficult for Ham although he never talked about it or said a bad word about any of his colleagues. It surely would have been easier to go along with fellow committee members who could, if they became displeased enough, vote him out of his position as ranking minority member of the committee. But Ham Fish followed his conscience just as he did in that early vote to impeach a President and on so many other matters.

Last year as I was leaving the moving memorial service for Representative Fish at St. Albans Chapel in Washington, I ran into a Republican Congressman I knew. He is a very bright and capable legislator who had made an unsuccessful run for higher office and then returned to the House and his

record on issues of civil rights and social justice is a mixed one. As we were parting I said to him "I hope you will carry on in the tradition of Ham Fish." I hadn't planned to say that and I wasn't sure how he would take it since he regards himself as very independent. But he clearly was flattered and he replied that he hoped he would be equal to the task.

In the months that followed, there was one clear test of character in the House and this Congressman stood up with a handful of other Republicans to go against his party's demands and to vote his conscience. I like to believe he was thinking of Ham Fish when he cast that vote. I don't know that for sure.

But I do know that Hamilton Fish left his legacy in many places—in the passion for justice of his children who I have become acquainted with over the years, in the civil rights and other communities he served, and in the Congress itself. It is a legacy of commitment, of generosity of spirit and of courage. And it should leave us all a bit more hopeful about the future.

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAY YES TO EDUCATION

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 1997

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of the 10th anniversary of a program that has made a dramatic difference in the lives of students in Philadelphia and two other cities, and that has helped our Nation focus attention on better ways to promote success for inner-city students.

In June 1987, a trustee of the University of Pennsylvania, George Weiss and his former wife Diane, made an announcement at the Belmont Elementary School that changed the lives of 112 West Philadelphia students and launched a program that has become a national model for intervention in urban schools.

Say Yes to Education began with a promise by the Weisses to pay complete costs for college or postsecondary training. However, they knew that more would be needed to ensure that the students would be prepared to take advantage of their promise. The Say Yes to Education Foundation was formed under the educational leadership of Dr. Norman Newberg, its executive director and Randall Sims, its senior project coordinator. The program provided counseling, tutoring, mentoring, and summer programs to enrich the cultural and intellectual lives of the student. Perhaps even more important was the personal involvement of the Weisses and the Say Yes staff in encouraging the students. On more than one occasion, George Weiss himself knocked on doors to personally urge students to reject negative influences and take education seriously. It's this kind of dedication that makes the Say Yes program a national example of true educational reform.

Under Dr. Newberg's leadership, Say Yes is organized as a four-way partnership between sponsors, a college or university, the students and their families, and the public schools. The relationship with a college or university adds a significant dimension to the program because of the vast human and institutional resources which are available to be used in support of student progress. The university connection helps to spread information and ideas to other educators about what works.

The program has grown to include over 300 students, including a class from the Harrity Elementary School in Philadelphia and students in Hartford, CT, and Cambridge, MA. To date 67 of the original Say Yes students have graduated from high school, with 19 matriculating at 4-year colleges and 21 at 2-year colleges. This number far exceeds the expectations of educational experts for students from similar economic backgrounds.

The stories of these students, dubbed the Belmont 112 by the Philadelphia Inquirer in periodic articles about the program, have touched the lives of many Philadelphians and inspired other sponsors to reach out to urban students.

It is because the success of programs like Say Yes to Education, that I introduced the 21st Century Scholar Act, H.R. 777. This act would notify elementary school students at the poorest public schools in the country that they would be eligible for the maximum Federal Pell grant award if they complete their high school education and gain admission into a postsecondary institution. In addition, my legislation would make available tutoring and mentoring services to these students through the existing Federal TRIO programs. The 21st Century Scholars Act implements the efforts of successful private early intervention programs, such as Say Yes to Education, on a national scale.

To mark the 10th anniversary of the Say Yes to Education Program, a reunion of student participants and sponsors will take place in Philadelphia on July 26, 1997.

I am pleased to honor the original Belmont Say Yes to Education students by entering their names into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD: Allen Alexander; Eric Alexander; Tanyell Alick; Dana Baynes; Jerell Baynes; Majovie Billups-Bland; Maurice Boone; Christopher Bradford; Mitchell Bronson; Shermika Brown; Walter Brown; Damion Caldwell; Tabitha Casper; Sekou Clark; David Cox-Sims; Kimberly Creamer; Zengo Daigre; Zeno Daigre; Jahleel Daniels.

James Davis; Solomon Davis; Troy Davis; William Dorsey; Frank Duckett; Craig Dunston; Anita Edwards; Micah Ellison; Jalina Evans; Mark Ferguson; Vedia Fisher; Tolanda Fortune; Craig Freeman; Gregg Freeman; Joelena Fuller; Lamont Goings; Ayenna Gomez; Yasmeen Grantham; Steven Guilford; Antoinette Harper; Mack Harvey; Mildrienne Hatten; Jerwayne Haywood; Kenneth Hilliard; Charles Hollerway; Micah Holliday; Jermaine Horton; Nicole Huff; Carol Jackson; Eugene Jackson; Tamika Jackson; Carmen James; Aronda Jenkins; James Johnson; Ravenel Johnson; Crystal Jones; Chantel Jones-Akers; Marvette Leatherberry; Sherlina Leatherberry; Christopher Lee; Latasha Lighty; Nickia Little; Genise Mace; Cedric Mallory; Richard Matthews.

Percy McKitthen; Charles Miles; Dellshon Miller; Sonny Miller; Vanessa Mitchell; Jarmaine Olliviere; William Payne; Ronald Pierce; Aaron Pitt; Shaheed Purnell; Joanne Randall; Nicole Randall; Kemeika Richardson; Rodana Robinson; Juanita Rollerson; Quentin Ross; Katrina Scruggs; Edwin Seals; Marc Seymour; Michael Shenoster; Harold Shields, Jr.; Orion Sistrunk; Tanisha Smalls; Cornell Smith; Jumar Smith; Larry Smith; Rodney Sowell; Janine Spruill; Dorothy Stewart; Jeremy Summers; Iva Supplee-Tate; Bradley Torrence; Horace Torrence; Montara Tyler;

Kenya Walker; Shantee Washington; Bryant Webster; Pauline White; Kelly Whitehead; Eric Whitney; Bill Wilcox; David Williams; Paul Williams; Tamika Williams; Tashieka Williams; Theresa Williams; Marvin Wilson; Christopher Wood.

I hope that all Members will take time to learn more about this important program and its successes as our Nation moves forward in its effort to revitalize education for all students.

SALUTING NASA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the excellent work being done by the scientists and engineers at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration [NASA]. NASA is an extremely important public agency and its vast array of work including space, science, aeronautics, global environment, and education, benefits the Nation on a number of levels.

Under the direction of Administrator Daniel Goldin, current NASA operations are both dynamic and productive. Mr. Goldin has been an agent of positive change and reform. Programs are being carried out faster and cheaper. His dedication to the international space station has promoted an atmosphere in which nations from around the world have been willing to work in partnership. His efforts in seeking the inclusion of the Russian space agency are particularly noteworthy. They demonstrate the impact that the space program can have on international relations, encouraging cooperation toward peace. A United States and Russian joint space program is something that could never have even been dreamed of when cold war divisions were prevalent. The program highlights the mutual interests and mutual benefits of peace shared by our two great nations.

Of the many missions which NASA is currently working on, Mars Pathfinder, which landed on July 4, 1997, is the highlight. The mobile geological studies of Mars which are currently being carried out, are extremely innovative and educational. I would like to commend the brilliant scientists and engineers of NASA for the success of this mission.

NASA's international space station [ISS], phase I, has sought to collaborate international efforts in order to place into orbit and monitor American astronauts in space.

NASA's Mission to Planet Earth [MTPE] and the Earth Observing System [EOS] have provided, and are continuing to provide, key data on the Earth's global climate change. The program, designed by the talented engineers and staff of TRW, headquartered in the Cleveland area, endeavors to evaluate the interaction between the elements and the effects of natural and human-induced changes on the global environment. In the past the program has helped us to understand about the ozone layer and the effects and causes of destructive natural phenomena. At this time there are a number of scientific instruments aboard various spacecraft which are monitoring climatic trends.

A driving force behind the success of NASA's missions is the work carried out by the Cleveland based Lewis Research Center

[LeRC]. The Mars Pathfinder mission is one in which LeRC has an important role. The geological experiments being carried out by the Sojourner rover on Mars were formulated by LeRC scientists. The Lewis team is also a major participant in microgravity research. The near zero gravity experimentation has been successfully used over 80 times on 30 different missions. Eleven NASA Lewis experiments are part of the microgravity science laboratory aboard the space shuttle. These experiments will be invaluable in providing a bridge between present operations and those operations to be conducted in the near future aboard the ISS.

As impressive as all of these programs are, perhaps NASA's biggest achievement lies in the fact that all of the above has been conducted while reducing spending.

The Appropriations Committee proposed a fiscal year 1998 budget of \$13,648,000,000. As each fiscal year budget passes, projected NASA future spending shrinks. Productivity, however, has been maximized. The Earth Observing System program, for example, was in fiscal year 1991 forecast by NASA to require \$17 billion of public funds through the year 2000. In the fiscal year 1996 budget plan this projection had been reduced to \$7.2 billion. NASA has managed to achieve more with less.

One reason for the NASA success story is the cooperative interaction with commercial institutions and the links forged with their international counterparts. By collaborating with private sector organizations, NASA has been able to restructure certain of its operations while still achieving the desired results. For example, the technology generated by NASA in detecting and tracking tornadoes, has been used by commercial weather stations. Such links have produced a catalyst enabling more research and development to be undertaken.

Mr. Speaker, NASA is the unparalleled world leader in space technology, enabling this country to maintain world leadership in science technology and in aeronautics research and in space exploration. I salute the thousands of NASA employees who help to make the program possible.

NIKOLAI IVANOVICH GETMAN:
ARTIST OF THE SOVIET GULAG

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the accomplishments of Soviet born artist, Nikolai Getman, a refugee of the Soviet Gulag, the immense series of prison camps that extended across the length and breadth of the former Soviet Union. His paintings have given us a unique insight into the ghastly life of the Gulag. This exhibition, a collection of paintings depicting life at the Gulag, is of immense historical importance. Over the past several months the Jamestown Foundation, a nonprofit organization which focuses on the former Soviet Union, has raised funds to bring these paintings to the United States and save them from possible destruction. The paintings will be available for viewing in the Rotunda of the Russell Senate Office Building between July 21 and July 25.