

In addition to serving as President of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Crookston remained active both as President of the Santa Monica Jaycees and as a member of the Rotary Club of Santa Monica, confirming his commitment to community service and leadership.

During his tenure as president, Mr. Crookston maintained the delicate balance between addressing economic challenges while also providing the Chamber's membership and the community increased services, benefits, and programs.

Under Mr. Crookston's leadership, the partnership between the city of Santa Monica and the Chamber of Commerce was strengthened through a number of projects, including the school to work and career education program, the homeless assistance program, health and safety programs, and environmental programs.

Mr. Crookston approached his duties with a mixture of compassion and a strong business sense, encouraging cooperative efforts between the business community and community service agencies that serve Santa Monica's youth, families, seniors, and homeless populations. The members of the Chamber of Commerce and the residents of the city of Santa Monica owe Mr. Crookston a debt of gratitude for his devoted leadership.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Bill Crookston for his successful term as president of the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce and in wishing him happiness and success in the future.

HONORING WILLIAM E. THOMSON,
JR. OF PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

HON. JAMES E. ROGAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 1997

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, many community leaders do great public service; too few are recognized for their outstanding achievements. One who deserves our recognition is William E. Thomson Jr. of Pasadena, CA.

Bill is a graduate of Bucknell University and Georgetown University Law Center. He is a member of the bar in California, Virginia, and Ohio, as well as the U.S. District Court in California, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the U.S. Supreme Court.

A long-time resident of Pasadena, Bill has earned a reputation as a man of civic duty and responsibility. He was elected to the Pasadena City Council in 1981 and served continuously until this month, and was elected mayor and served in that capacity from 1988 until 1990.

Bill's leadership role carried him far beyond the council chambers. He has lobbied on behalf of the city before the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, California State Legislature, and U.S. Congress. For more than a decade he has served as lead negotiator for the Rose Bowl and its related events. He helped to bring the Olympics, two Super Bowls and World Cup Soccer to Los Angeles County. His professional successes have also given him the distinction of being recognized in Who's Who in American Law.

Bill has dedicated his career to his friends and neighbors in Pasadena, Los Angeles County and to the people of this Nation. His

work on behalf of our State has given us innumerable benefits and touched countless lives.

Our communities are built on the foundation of good people. As we look to make our neighborhoods better places in which to live and provide a better life for our children, we need only look to Bill to find inspiration, motivation and ideals. To this dedicated public servant, parent, and citizen, we owe our utmost gratitude and heartfelt thanks.

HONORING DR. EVA C. WANTON

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 1997

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Speaker, today we honor one of the academic worlds finest, Dr. Eva C. Wanton, founding dean of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University's School of General Studies. Through her 30-year career at Florida A & M University, her record of quality teaching, service, and research reflects a commitment to improved educational opportunities for all students and a commitment to a better quality of life for her north Florida community.

For all of Dr. Wanton's academic achievements, I'm sure nothing compares to the personal relationships she has developed with her students, her faculty, and her community. Dr. Wanton has put her words into action. She has not merely stood by on the sidelines giving instructions on how to achieve, but rather she has led through her actions. Every student who has walked through her doors has been enriched through the experience of knowing Dr. Wanton. How many of us have had that one teacher or professor that we can look back and say? "My life was changed or positively impacted by an educator who went that extra mile because he/she saw the potential in me." If our young people are to succeed in today's world, we must have more individuals like Eva Wanton.

Today I rise to personally thank Dr. Wanton for the extra effort she takes to make a difference in north Florida. She is a precious gift to our community. We should all set our goals so high, because when we do, there is no limit to what we can achieve.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday May 7, 1997

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I regretfully missed rollcall vote No. 99, on May 1, 1997. If I had been present for that vote I would have voted "nay."

VOLUNTARISM

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 1997

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, May 7, 1997 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

THE SUMMIT ON VOLUNTARISM

Most observers of American life have noted a renewed interest in community, a response in part to the all too obvious social problems of homelessness, poverty, crime, and drug abuse. One of the underpinnings of our democracy, long noted by historians, is that Americans constantly form associations of all shapes and sizes to deal with the challenges of the day. Last week's high-profile summit on voluntarism in Philadelphia was designed to provide firepower to change the dynamics of voluntarism. It was clearly an impressive event, but my guess is that the overall effort is going to require a more involved strategy and considerable follow through.

OVERVIEW

The Summit For America's Future was quite an event. It had powerful rhetoric, a long list of good intentions, and impassioned calls for volunteers from Presidents Clinton, Bush, Carter, and Ford and from retired General Colin Powell. The summit's goal of improving the lives of 2 million children by the year 2000 is certainly a good one.

The summit seeks to mobilize volunteers and corporate money to help these children and make up for a scaled-back federal effort by providing children with mentors, safe places after school, health care and job skills, and an opportunity to perform community service themselves. All in all it was hard to escape the spirit of the summit and the spirit of voluntarism. The challenge to every group, business, and citizen is to give young people the support they need.

The benefits of volunteering are obvious. It not only raises the quality of life for a lot of people, it builds a sense of community, breaks down barriers between people, and develops leadership. I was greatly impressed during the floods that came to southern Indiana with the leadership that emerged in trying to see that food, services, and shelter were made available to the victims.

The extent to which corporate America is embracing volunteerism is also impressive. Hundreds of companies have donated time and money toward the summit's goals. They are pledging to mentor students, provide activities for children after school, offer health services, help students to develop marketable skills, and donate equipment and services to schools. The traditional view that companies are only responsible for earning a profit appears to be outdated.

ASSESSMENT

I am always impressed with how generous Hoosiers are with their own time, ideas, and resources. I think of countless groups I have visited—religious organizations, foundations, corporations, not-for-profits, even the volunteer firemen who risk their lives for us. Their work brightens our lives and our communities. They serve as a marvelous antidote to the constant stream of news reports of crime and violence.

I do not draw the conclusion from their good activities, however, that government needs to do nothing. Anyone who has worked deeply on our country's most intractable social problems knows that it will take both private and public efforts to get the job done. There are about 40 million poor people in America and they literally need everything—better education, better health care, more food, more clothing, more skills training.

The floods in Indiana showed us the virtues and the limits of voluntary action. Bagging the sand and providing meals and clothing were wonderful examples of volunteer achievement, but the money from the federal and state governments is necessary to rebuild the communities. Throughout American history, volunteerism and government

have worked together. We all know that government programs have a lot of gaps and failures. Volunteers can fill some of those gaps but probably not all of them.

The overall statistics on volunteerism are impressive. 93 million Americans volunteer. They contributed a stunning 20 billion hours of their time in 1995—that's 220 hours per person. But a closer look at the figures raises some questions. Almost 5 billion of those hours are informal volunteering like baby sitting for a neighbor and baking cookies for a school fair, and many others are volunteer hours at theaters, museums, boards, and commissions. While extremely worthwhile, such efforts don't always address some of the core problems of our society. Less than 10% of those 93 million volunteers work in human services, and fewer than 4% are tutors or mentors. Much volunteer work is done for local churches, which is certainly valuable, but only about 10-15% of volunteering done through the churches goes into the community.

Volunteer effort can also be poorly organized and managed. I am told by people who organize volunteers that there are usually many when a disaster strikes or when help is needed for one-time events like a walk-a-thon or even building a home for a poor family. The real problems come with sustained efforts to deal with the problems of poor children, needy seniors, and the poor. Volunteer services—especially improving the lives of children through mentoring—needs to be performed one-on-one over a long period of time and often in very low-income neighborhoods. It is hard to get volunteers for those kinds of tasks. Most volunteering is done in a very tight circle of familiar friends, places, and activities.

CONCLUSION

The big question that emerges from the summit, of course, is its legacy. Will this unprecedented bipartisan celebration of volunteerism be an historic launching point to help children and decaying neighborhoods or will it be just another media extravaganza that will fade over time? The central challenge is aimed at the millions of at-risk children in this country. They come from poor families that are often dysfunctional. Many overcome steep odds to lead productive lives but many others do not, at a high cost to society over a lifetime.

The summit has given us a chance, just a chance, to do something really important. It certainly signals a fresh start, and it will inspire many Americans to volunteer. Those who have worked on our intractable social problems are probably entitled to a degree of skepticism about its impact and follow through, but the real task is how to make things different this time. Commitments have been made and the challenge is to see if the American people can be inspired and energized to enhance the future of the children.

HONORING ESTHER KELLER

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 1997

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to speak in praise of Esther Keller for her work and dedication to the people of the 17th Congressional District. Esther retired last month after 20 years of service and while I wish her the best, I will truly miss her. In fact, she was one of my first staff members when I was first elected to public office 20 years ago.

She has worked hard and well and with little public recognition, except among the many

she has helped. She gave constituents what they want and deserve most from government: Help with a problem they cannot solve themselves. She initially worked out of a trailer in Co-op City before we moved indoors to an office which I still maintain.

Esther has been an integral part of my public life from the beginning. She worked long hours to help the people of the district, working with those who had difficulties with the Social Security system giving guidance when they could not find their way through the intricacies of the bureaucracy. She brought her own special kind of charm so that people who were receiving her help also felt comfortable.

All Members of Congress know the value of a staff member who wants to help those in need of help. In the time Esther worked for me I came to appreciate her willingness and her determination to give her all to the constituents. She treated them as her own, using all of her ability to assure them that someone did care and would help. I salute her and wish her the very best in her retirement. I and all the people of the 17th Congressional District will miss her.

BUFFALO GENERAL HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 1997

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues that today, May 7, 1997, the Alumni Association of the Buffalo General Hospital School of Nursing, in Buffalo, NY, is dedicating a permanent exhibit honoring the hospital's School of Nursing.

Buffalo General's School of Nursing was founded April 5, 1877 as the Training School for Nurses. It was the first such school west of New York City and is the second oldest hospital school of nursing in the United States. The school's nurse graduates have served our Nation in five wars: Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, Korean war, and Vietnam war.

Among the school's many notable graduates was Lystra Gretter, class of 1888. She is best remembered for chairing the committee that wrote the Nightingale Pledge—later adopted as the official pledge of graduate nurses from accredited schools throughout the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in honoring the Buffalo General Hospital School of Nursing for its 120 years of training nurses to care for our citizens.

COMING HOME: JAPANESE-AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS OF 1942-1945—A SPECIAL GRADUATION CEREMONY

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 1997

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Japanese-Americans who re-

ceived honorary high school diplomas from the San Francisco Unified School District in a special graduation ceremony on May 6 at the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium in San Francisco.

The honorees were denied the opportunity to graduate from high school in San Francisco during World War II. The issuance of Executive Order 9066 by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt on February 19, 1942, set into motion the incarceration of 120,000 Japanese-Americans including the honorees and their families for the remainder of World War II. The internees were given only 48-hour notice to sell or store their belongings, and evacuate their homes before they were herded into 10 internment camps across this Nation. They were surrounded by barbed wire and watched over by armed military guards.

Most of the honorees were only 17 or 18 years old at the time. They were removed from school as security risks. Yet, they were American citizens, the American-born sons and daughters of parents who emigrated from Japan.

More than 50 years later, the honorees and their fellow internees are in the senior years of their lives. In the past decade or so, our Government has apologized and awarded reparations. The Civil Liberties Public Education Fund now supports efforts to educate others about the internment experience.

The honorees' experiences are living symbols of a shameful period in American history which we must not repeat. As one of the planners of the ceremony expressed, it is a privilege to be part of a program that will enlighten so many, especially the students in our school system.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the individuals involved and the San Francisco Unified School District in planning this event to acknowledge the legacy of the Japanese-American experiences. I am grateful to the honorees for coming forward and sharing of themselves. I am proud to salute them.

TRIBUTE TO JAMON CHARLES WILLIAMS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 1997

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to pay special tribute to a remarkable individual who has distinguished himself by his exceptional accomplishments in both academics and athletics. Mr. Jamon Charles Williams passed away on Thursday, April 17, 1997.

Jamon attended Memorial High School in San Antonio, TX, and was in the top 15 percent of his senior class. He was a Presidential Classroom Scholar and had plans to pursue an Engineering career at one of the six colleges where he had already been accepted.

Jamon was co-captain of Memorial's basketball team and was named to the 27-AAAA District Basketball team. His athletic ability and his desire to build team morale allowed him to lead his high school basketball team to many victories. In addition, Jamon was the president of the Black Student Union.

Mr. Speaker, all of San Antonio grieves for the family and friends of Jamon Williams. Mr.