

CONGRATULATING ROCKY MOUNT
ON ITS ALL-AMERICA CITY DESIGNATION**HON. BOB ETHERIDGE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the City of Rocky Mount, North Carolina for earning the designation of an All-America City. I have the honor of representing Rocky Mount in the U.S. House.

Founded in the early part of the Nineteenth Century, Rocky Mount is now a city of more than 57,000 people located in the heart of eastern North Carolina. Its name derives from the rocky mound situated at the falls of the Tar River, which was the site of a new post office and one of the first cotton mills in North Carolina. In 1907, Rocky Mount, then with a population of about 7,500 people, was incorporated as a city. Following decades of growth and achievement, Rocky Mount was first named an All-America City in 1970.

Almost 30 years later, Mr. Speaker, Rocky Mount continues to stand out for its civic excellence. The National Civic League, which has given out the All-America City Awards for the past 50 years, commended Rocky Mount as a community that teaches the rest of us how to face difficult situations and meet those challenges in innovative and collaborative ways. According to the organization, Rocky Mount is a city in which citizens, government, businesses and voluntary organizations work together to address critical local issues.

Specifically, the National Civic League cited three examples of this type of cooperation in Rocky Mount. The city developed the Down East Partnership for Children, which is dedicated to achieving the fundamentals of quality child growth and development. It annually reaches more than 12,000 children, parents, and agencies. Rocky Mount also formed the Carolinas Gateway Partnership, a nationally recognized non-profit corporation partnership with 190 investors, which has secured commitments worth \$170 million that will eventually create 2,300 jobs as it seeks to promote economic development in the area.

In addition, Rocky Mount became part of the Rocky Mount-Edgecombe-Nash Educational Cooperative, which was designed to coordinate the resources of business and education for the betterment of both schools and students. Thus far, the Cooperative has funded more than 935 creative teaching grants worth about \$500,000 that have affected thousands of students. I would like to take a point of personal privilege in adding that I am profoundly grateful and proud of the Nash-Rocky Mount Public School system for its leadership in teaching character education in the classroom, yet another reason why Rocky Mount is an All-America City.

Finally, I want to thank the Leadership Rocky Mount Alumni group and the Rocky Mount Chamber of Commerce for all their hard work over the past few years to bring this outstanding recognition to Rocky Mount.

Mr. Speaker, it is both an honor and a privilege to represent Rocky Mount and her 57,158 All-American citizens in the U.S. Congress. I encourage all my colleagues to read the following article from the Rocky Mount Telegram celebrating this well-deserved honor.

[From the Rocky Mount Telegram, June 27, 1999]

ROCKY MOUNT IS ALL-AMERICAN!!

‘ALL-AMERICA CITY’ DESIGNATION CAPTURED AT
PHILADELPHIA EVENT

(By Tom Murphy)

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—There's something about "Rocky" and Philadelphia.

In the city famed as the home of Sylvester Stallone's fictional movie boxer, another Rocky—Rocky Mount—captured All-America City status Saturday in the 50th annual awards sponsored by the National Civic League and Allstate Insurance Co.

The other nine winners were Stockton, Calif.; Union City, Calif.; Tallahassee; Fla.; Wichita, Kan.; Shreveport, La.; Lowell, Mass.; Tupelo, Miss.; Green Bay, Wisc.; and Tri-Cities (Bristol, Va.; Johnson City and Kingsport, Tenn.). Two other North Carolina finalists, Hickory and Morganton, failed to make the cut.

The awards honor communities that show exemplary grassroots community involvement and problem-solving. The original field of 93 applicants was cut to 30 finalists. As a winner, Rocky Mount is eligible for a \$10,000 award from Allstate.

Mayor Fred Turnage, in accepting the All-America City Award, reflected on another delegation from Rocky Mount that stood on the All-America City stage in Philadelphia 30 years ago.

They also proclaimed that Rocky Mount was a community that was walking to the beat of a different drum, and how it had focused on racial harmony, quality education and job opportunity, Turnage said.

Turnage added in subsequent years and certainly in the most recent decade, many citizens have worked diligently to accomplish those goals.

"In recent years, the formation of partnerships has enabled us to make significant strides in all of those areas," he said. "The Down East Partnership for Children is a tremendous example of what cooperation can accomplish with its total focus on giving our young people Smart Start and a quality education."

"The Gateway Partnership has demonstrated that cooperation and teamwork between the private and public sectors can truly accomplish, and is helping provide quality job opportunities and economic stability for our community."

Turnage said the third partnership, which was a part of Rocky Mount's presentation, is a great example of what the business and education community can and must do to achieve quality education.

"It would be my hope that as pleased and humbled as we are to have received this award that we, as well as other award-winning cities, would simply use it as an opportunity for even greater cooperation and basis for addressing many of the challenges that still confront us," he said. "It is important to recognize that the All-America City Award does not mean a community is perfect, but that it is attempting to meet challenges and solve problems in innovative and cooperative ways at the ground level of democracy."

Turnage commended the Leadership Rocky Mount Alumni group for initiating this process some two years ago, and for the Chamber of Commerce for carrying the process to its conclusion.

"There is a tremendous amount of work and effort that goes into this process, and it takes a great deal of planning and commitment to see it to a successful conclusion," he said.

"We are particularly proud of our young people, who were a part of that delegation and who brought so much enthusiasm. The

Jazzy Jaguars from D.S. Johnson School particularly kept us pumped up with their performances and energy."

Chamber President Charlie Glazener agreed.

"It's just unbelievable," said Glazener. "We wish every city here tonight could feel the pride our city feels."

"Mayor Turnage was so right when he accepted our award and said it's time to start more projects for the next generation."

City manager Steve Raper said the city is extremely proud of its citizens across the entire Nash Edgecombe community.

"The people in Nash and Edgecombe are truly reflective of the work we can do and all the work we've completed together to improve our community," Raper said.

PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON'S
RIGHTFUL PLACE IN HISTORY**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to President Lyndon B. Johnson. President Johnson was born on August 27, 1908, in central Texas, not far from Johnson City, which his family had helped settle. He knew poverty firsthand, which helped him learn compassion for the poverty of others.

In 1960, Johnson was elected as John F. Kennedy's Vice President. On November 22, 1963, when Kennedy was assassinated, Johnson was sworn in as President.

On May 22, 1964, in a speech at the University of Michigan President Lyndon B. Johnson spoke of a "Great Society." He said, "The Great Society rests on abundance and liberty for all. It demands an end to poverty and racial injustice, to which we are totally committed in our time. But that is just the beginning."

President Johnson's vision included aid to education, attack on disease, Medicare, urban renewal, beautification, conservation, development of depressed regions, a wide-scale fight against poverty, control and prevention of crime and delinquency, and the removal of obstacles to the right to vote.

On July 6, 1999, the Houston Chronicle printed a column by Marianne Means, a Washington, D.C.-based columnist for the Hearst Newspapers, which details why President Johnson will be considered as one of our nation's greatest Presidents. Mr. Speaker, I would like to conclude by including Ms. Means' column in my remarks.

DON'T FORGET LBJ—HIS LEGACY HIGHLY
VISIBLE

(By Marianne Means)

For 30 years, President Lyndon B. Johnson has been ignored by Democratic politicians afraid of being tagged as liberal lackeys for the much-mocked Great Society or the bloody Vietnam War that brought down his presidency.

His name is seldom mentioned in his own party. Only a few brave souls defend him against conservatives who have campaigned for decades against the ambitious federal social programs he created and the cultural tumult of the 1960s that took place during his administration.

President Clinton has been particularly craven. Although he often cites his admiration for President Kennedy, who produced

very little legislation, Clinton never speaks of Johnson, who compiled a monumental domestic record.

It was to remind us of Johnson's impact on our lives and put a tidy historical end to the 1990s that scholars and former Johnson administration officials gathered recently at the Lyndon B. Johnson Library in Austin to look back across the generation gap at a period of almost unimaginable change.

This nation would be a far worse place had Lyndon Johnson not occupied the White House. He demanded that elderly patients get government help for health care through Medicare and Medicaid, blacks be granted the right to vote and enjoy equal access to public places, students be given financial aid for education, consumers be protected from fraud, poverty be assaulted with an array of education and employment initiatives and discrimination attacked with affirmative-action concepts.

This remarkable domestic revolution was overwhelmed by public outrage at Johnson for escalating a distant war in which more than 50,000 U.S. soldiers died. As a young student, Clinton himself dodged the draft to avoid being sent to Vietnam. Resentment of the war still fuels Clinton's chilly attitude toward Johnson even though Clinton has fought to perpetuate and expand most of LBJ's social programs.

But finally that war is fading into history. It was nearly a quarter century ago that we fled Saigon in defeat. Now diplomatic and trade ties are being restored and even battle-scarred veterans are returning there on sentimental visits.

If the war itself can recede, so can public anger at LBJ. He didn't live long enough to crusade for his own political rehabilitation, as Richard Nixon did. But time may do the task for him.

And despite decades of conservative scorn, the Great Society and the War on Poverty still exist, sometimes under different labels.

At the LBJ Library symposium, Joseph Califano Jr., a former Johnson White House assistant and Jimmy Carter's secretary of health, education and welfare, summed up LBJ's domestic record. And what a stunning record it is. He shoved through a reluctant Congress all sorts of radical ideas to help ordinary people.

For the first time, the federal government subsidized scholarships, grants and work-study programs to expand education opportunities for students from families with limited resources. Since 1965, the federal government has provided more than \$120 billion for elementary and secondary schools and billions for college loans.

Today, nearly 60 percent of full-time undergraduate students receive federal financial aid. When LBJ took office, only 41 percent of Americans had completed high school; only 8 percent held college degrees. Last year, more than 81 percent had finished high school and 24 percent had completed college.

Medicare and Medicaid provided millions of elderly Americans with health insurance for the first time. Since 1965, 79 million senior citizens have benefited from Medicare. Since 1966, more than 200 million poor Americans have been helped financially by Medicaid.

The food stamp program launched in 1967 helps to feed more than 20 million people in more than 8 million households. The school breakfast program begun the same year has provided a daily breakfast to nearly 100 million schoolchildren.

Johnson's civil rights act ended the officially segregated society that belied the American promise of freedom. No longer did blacks have to drink from separate water fountains and eat in separate restaurants.

No longer were they automatically denied equal opportunities for jobs and education.

Johnson was proudest of the Voting Rights Act, which outlawed all the sneaky practices that kept blacks from the ballot box. In 1964, there were only 300 black elected officials in the country; by 1998, there were more than 9,000. In 1965 there were five blacks in the House; today there are 39.

Although conservatives charge that LBJ's Great Society was a failure, Great Society projects like Head Start, the Job Corps, Community Health Centers, Foster Grandparents, Upward Bound and Indian and migrant worker programs helped reduce the number of Americans living in poverty. When LBJ took office, 22.2 percent of Americans lived below the poverty level. Today 13.3 percent are below that level, still too many but a trend in the right direction.

A TRIBUTE TO CHIEF PAUL WALTERS

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Paul Walters of the Santa Ana Police Department in Orange County, CA. On July 14, 1999, Chief Walters will be honored with the Federal Bureau of Investigation Director's Award for exceptional public service and partnership with the FBI. It is fitting that we pay tribute to this outstanding citizen and leader.

Chief Walters' 29 years in law enforcement were preceded by numerous academic achievements—a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice from California State University, Fullerton, a Masters of Public Administration from the University of Southern California and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from the American College of Law. He began his career as the Santa Ana Chief of Police in 1988.

Since that time, Chief Walters has demonstrated skilled and innovative leadership. He has received numerous awards, including distinctions from the National League of Cities and Orange County Metro Business Magazine. He has also served as a distinguished member of several organizations dedicated to improving law enforcement's effectiveness and quality.

The 1993 creation of the Multi-Agency Safe Streets Task Force is one of Chief Walters' most admirable achievements. This move led to a significant reduction in Santa Ana's crime rate. In fact, Chief Walters' support helped ensure the success of the FBI's anti-crime and drug efforts in Orange County. Last but not least, he demonstrated his own police skills and experience when he brought decisive evidence to a high-profile local murder case through his collaboration with federal agents.

I thank my Congressional colleagues for joining me today in recognizing this remarkable man who has dedicated himself to serving his fellow citizens and neighbors. He has shown what kind of men and women America needs for its future.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE RICHARD C. BLAKE

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Richard C. Blake of Toledo, OH, a man of great stature and kindest heart, who passed from this life on June 4, 1999. I came to know Dick and his family through his passionate commitment to the credit union movement to which, as his family noted, he "dedicated 52 years . . . as both his vocation and avocation."

Employed by the former Champion Spark Plug in Toledo, Dick was a member of the Champion Credit Union. He served in many of the credit union's leadership positions over 37 years, including membership on the board of directors, on the Credit and Supervisory Committees, board president, and treasurer/CEO. Not limiting his involvement in promoting credit unions to just the Champion Credit Union, Dick rose to the highest levels of the movement. He served as president of the Toledo Chapter of Credit Unions, chairman of the board and director emeritus of the Ohio Credit Union League, and director of the Credit Union National Association.

Dick also focused his time on community involvement, and was a past master of Toledo-Fort Industry Lodge #144; past patron of Fort Industry Chapter #391; a member of the Scottish Rite; and a member of the Adams Township American Legion Post. He also was a member of the Loyal Order of Moose Lodge #1610 and served on the finance committee of his church, Zion United Methodist. A water enthusiast, Dick belonged to the Toledo Yacht Club, Oak Harbor Long Beach Association, and the Coral Cay Association in Florida.

Dick's passing leaves a void in our community, but much more importantly within his loving family. Our heartfelt condolences to his wife of 57 years, Helen, and his children Becky, Kathy, and Bill, his eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Dick has touched the lives of thousands of people and made our community and country a more humane nation. We all are grateful for the privilege of knowing him.

TRIBUTE TO THE 31ST COM- MANDANT, UNITED STATES MAR- INE CORPS, GENERAL CHARLES C. KRULAK

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, integrity, respect, and character have always been the centerpiece of the long and magnificent tradition of the United States Marine Corps. I cannot begin to praise our United States Marines for their reliability and devotion to our country and its history. But I would like to pay tribute today to a great American and friend who has served his country since he graduated from the Naval Academy in 1964.

General Charles C. Krulak stepped down from his position as the 31st Commandant of