

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT A. MUNYAN

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 15, 1999

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on July 20, 1999, a long and illustrious career will come to an end with the retirement of Mr. Robert A. Munyan, the Business Manager of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local Union 1289 in Wall, NJ.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Munyan was hired by Jersey Central Power and Light Co. in 1956, and he retired in 1996 after four decades of loyal service. He became President and Business Manager for Local Union 1289 in 1980. Prior to becoming President and Business Manager, he has held the following positions in the Local: Shop Steward, Executive Board Member and Chairman, and Vice President. He has been involved in contract negotiations for the members of the Local and System Council U-3 since 1979.

Mr. Munyan has had a significant role in many of the key public policy issues facing our state. He represented the New Jersey State AFL-CIO in shaping the New Jersey Master Energy Plan. He has been actively involved in protecting workers' rights as the electricity deregulation issue is debated in the State Legislature. Throughout his career, Robert Munyan has been a strong proponent of the importance of political education. He has done a tremendous job of instilling in working men and women an appreciation of the need for organization and political awareness. He has also reached out to educate the political leadership about the needs and aspirations of working people.

Mr. Speaker, after his August 21st retirement dinner, I know that Mr. Munyan—who has been married for 40 years, with two children and two grandchildren—is looking forward to the opportunity that retirement will provide for him to spend more time with his family. But I hope he will continue to play an important role in public affairs. We will still benefit from his leadership, energy and dedication to the fight on behalf of the working men and women of our state and our nation.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE APOLLO 11 MOON LANDING AND ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION ABOARD THE U.S.S. HORNET MUSEUM IN ALAMEDA, CA

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 15, 1999

Mr. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the historic Apollo 11 moon landing by astronauts Neil Armstrong, Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin and Michael Collins. This milestone will be commemorated aboard the U.S.S. Hornet Museum with a nine-day festival, called "Moonfest 1999."

Moonfest 1999 is an event blending history, education and family entertainment together in celebration of one of the greatest achievements of the 20th Century. The festival will include an airshow, lectures, exhibits, moon and

star gazing parties, a film series, receptions and youth activities beginning on Friday, July 16th and concluding on Saturday, July 24th, 1999.

The dates of the festival have special meaning because July 16, 1969, is the date the Apollo 11 crew departed from earth, landing on the moon on July 20th, and recovered safely by the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Hornet in the Pacific Ocean on July 24th.

Planning for the first human landing on the moon began in April 1957 and in July 1960, NASA named the program "Project Apollo" with five goals: (1) to land American explorers on the Moon and return them safely to Earth; (2) to establish the technology required to meet other national interests in space; (3) to achieve for the United States preeminence in space; (4) to carry out a program of scientific exploration of the Moon; and (5) to develop human kind's capability to work in the lunar environment. With Apollo 11's mission, these goals were met.

On the morning of July 24, 1969, the Aircraft Carrier U.S.S. Hornet, as the Primary Recovery Carrier, successfully recovered the Apollo 11 astronauts. On board the Hornet to welcome the astronauts back was the President of the United States, NASA personnel, distinguished guests and the Hornet's crew.

This historic landing, and the many that followed, was achieved in large part by the dedication and creativity of several California aerospace corporations and their subcontractors, as well as citizens, universities and government agencies of the State of California.

I proudly join citizens throughout the world in celebrating the 30th anniversary of the monumental achievement of the first lunar landing. I also want to thank the U.S.S. Hornet, her crew and all of the people involved with the Apollo Program for successfully bringing the Apollo 11 crew home safely. I am excited and honored to join in this celebration and encourage all to participate in the Moonfest 1999 activities.

A POINT OF LIGHT FOR ALL AMERICANS: REVEREND BOOKER T. MCCOLLUM

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 15, 1999

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Reverend Booker T. McCollum, an individual who has tirelessly dedicated his life to making society better. This individual has made a lifetime commitment to the church and to the community. His vision, generosity, and devotion have empowered Reverend McCollum to not only spread the word of God but to uplift all those he has encountered. Reverend Booker T. McCollum is a great "Point-of-Light" whose work has not gone unappreciated or unnoticed.

Although his roots are in Mississippi, Reverend McCollum began his ministry in Brooklyn, NY. After relocating to New York, he joined the Friendship Baptist Church in Brooklyn and faithfully served as assistant church clerk, chairman of the trustees and deacon boards, and later as assistant to the pastor. In 1964, Reverend McCollum accepted the call to preach. By 1966, the reverend became an

ordained and licensed Baptist minister. He continued to work diligently at the Friendship Baptist Church until he was moved by God to pursue his vision of starting a new church mission.

The vision would materialize as the St. Anthony Baptist Church located at 425 Utica Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. Reverend McCollum adopted the philosophy: "St. Anthony Baptist Church is the church where everybody is somebody and God is over all and where there are no big I's and little U's." This philosophy has helped what was once a gathering of a few faithful members at the home of Mr. & Mrs. James Parker become a pillar in the Brooklyn community.

Reverend McCollum was educated at Cornell Labor College of Law and the Baptist Education Center. His professional career includes employment with The United Furniture Workers Labor Union, Local 140 where he held the position of secretary/treasurer. He served in a religious capacity as president of the Evangelical Minister's Union, and he is the recipient of countless awards and citations. In addition to serving God and his community, Reverend McCollum served his country with distinction in the U.S. Navy.

Reverend Booker T. McCollum married "Grace Barnes" in 1943. There were happily married for more than 50 years and had three children: David, Gloria and Russell. His distinguished life marks one of dedication to community, to God, and to family. Reverend McCollum is a great "Point of Light," not only for people of his New York community, but for all of the people of America.

IN RECOGNITION OF HOUSTON ASTROS MANAGER LARRY DIERKER

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 15, 1999

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I want to offer my best wishes to Houston Astros manager Larry Dierker who will return to the dugout tonight, just four weeks after undergoing surgery that removed the cause of a grand mal seizure he suffered on June 13, 1999.

Although he must still take medication for the foreseeable future, Larry's doctors have told him he has little chance of recurrence of the seizure that struck without warning as he sat in the Astros' dugout. Like all Houstonians, I was shocked and alarmed by the severity of the seizure which played out on television and before nearly 30,000 fans at the Astrodome in Houston. In the moments following his seizure, I was struck by the presence and courage of the Astros players, personnel and paramedics who rushed to Larry's aid. In particular, I was impressed by the response of outfielder Derek Bell, who took direct, physical action to keep Larry from further injury.

As every Astros fan knows, Larry Dierker is in his third season as manager of the Astros. In 1998, he was named the National League Manager of the Year after leading the Astros to a record 102 wins. Before taking over as manager in October 1996, Dierker spent 17 seasons as an Astros radio and television broadcaster. He led the Astros to the National League Central title in his first season, then to

their second straight division crown in 1998. For those of us that remember the early days of the Astros, we also know Larry for his 14 remarkable seasons as a top-notch pitcher in the National League who was the Astros' first 20-game winner in 1969. He was named to two All-Star games and pitched a no-hitter in 1976.

Mr. Chairman, many sports fans, including myself, can easily become caught-up in the importance of winning games, division titles and championships. We rejoice at the success of the great athletes, whose guile and ability seem to defy our human limitations. While winning is important, injuries and losses teach both athletes and fans alike to keep humility in check, for we are all mortal, and every moment of triumph and success can be quickly supplanted with bad fortune and loss. In many ways, the battles of winning and losing, through good times and bad, mirror the unpredictable course of our own lives.

On June 13, 1999, Larry Dierker, a quiet, humble man who has accomplished many great things in the arena of baseball, brought this lesson home to the sports fans of Houston. Now that he has rejoined the Astros, I join with Larry Dierker's family and many friends in the major leagues in celebrating his quick recovery and offering my best wishes in his able return to the Astros dugout.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2466) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, today I rise to support Representative SLAUGHTER's amendment which will add money to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

Ms. SLAUGHTER's amendment raises the appropriation level for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) by \$10 million each.

The NEH is vital to our educational systems and provides numerous services in the area of the humanities. The NEH provides grants to individuals and institutions. These grants support valuable aspects of the humanities such as research in the humanities; educational opportunities for teachers; the preservation of texts and materials; translations of important works; museum exhibitions, television and radio programs; and public discussion and study.

The humanities encompass a wide variety of subject matter. They are all around us and evident in our daily lives. When you visit an exhibition on "The Many Realms of King Arthur" at your local library, that is the humanities. When you read the diary of a 17th-cen-

tury New England midwife, that is the humanities. When you watch an episode of "The Civil War," that is the humanities, too. The humanities include the study of literature, history, philosophy, religion, art, history, and archaeology.

NEH also provides many educational tools for children. Most recently, the NEH has provided students with the educational foundations necessary for the use of the internet. NEH maintains EDSITEment, a gateway Web site that provides links to 49 sites carefully selected for their quality of educational content and design. Instead of having to sift through more than 65,000 humanities-related sites on the Web, anyone seeking the best humanities education materials on the Internet can easily find and access them through EDSITEment. Each site comes with lesson plans offering suggestions on how to use the materials effectively in the classroom.

NEH works closely with schools and is currently awarding grants to schools around the nation through an initiative called "Schools for a New Millennium," which will enable those schools to become models of how teachers, principals, librarians, and the community can fully incorporate CD-ROM's and the Internet into their everyday teaching.

To increase its efficiency, the NEH is organized into three divisions—Education and Research, Preservation and Access, and Public Program—and three offices—Challenge Grants, Federal/State Partnership, and Enterprise.

The Hogg Middle School in my district received a grant from the NEH to do a historical study of the Heights, an area in my district, which will be published on the world-wide-web along the side and connected to the official online guide to Texas history. This is a tremendous achievement that could only be done with the help of the NEH.

The NEA is an independent agency of the Federal government charged with supporting the arts in America for All Americans. The NEA carries out their mission through grants, leadership initiatives, partnership agreements with state and regional organizations, partnerships with other Federal agencies and the private sector, research, arts education, access programs, and advocacy.

Since 1965, the example at the Federal level has led to the establishment of public arts agencies in every state and the creation of seven regional arts agencies. Public arts agencies in small towns and cities have grown to over 3,800. Through the NEA partnerships, they have helped to increase the amount of private donations to the arts. For every dollar the endowment awards, other sources contribute \$12 to make art happen in thousands of communities.

The NEA in Texas has provided money for such programs to the Houston Symphony Society, the Houston International Jazz Festival, the Alley Theater and the Texas Institute for Arts in Education. These programs ensure that Houston, TX, will remain a hub of arts and culture for years to come, and I look forward to their continuing important work.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support funding for both the NEA and the NEH.

IN HONOR OF COLOMBIA AND THE COLOMBIAN PEOPLE ON THE 189TH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR INDEPENDENCE FROM SPAIN AND OF THE COLOMBIAN COMMUNITY IN ELIZABETH, NJ

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 15, 1999

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 189th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence of Colombia from Spain and to proclaim July 19–23, 1999, as "Colombian Week" in the City of Elizabeth, NJ.

The Colombian Community in the City of Elizabeth has made great contributions to my district, as well as to the State of New Jersey. They have provided many invaluable services, and their culture and heritage continues to enrich the entire 13th District. Repeatedly, they have worked diligently to realize every opportunity that American democracy provides.

Because of their spiritual and cultural values, the Colombian community of Elizabeth has exemplified civil responsibility. They have emerged as true role models for all Americans by working not only for the welfare of the Colombian community, but for the health, wealth, and welfare of the city at large.

The initiation of "Colombian Week" offers a time for the Colombian community to celebrate Colombia's growth as a nation and to share that feeling with the entire community of Elizabeth. Through teaching and learning from each other's experiences, we are able to build a strong and united community. I invite all the people of Elizabeth to unite and help to commemorate this great Colombian anniversary.

I am happy to honor the Colombian community for their many achievements and contributions to the City of Elizabeth. As the city unites to commemorate the 189th anniversary of Colombia, may we all take a moment to recognize their great efforts and accomplishments.

WHY I'M OPPOSED TO A PAY HIKE

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 15, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, very soon the House will decide on the matter of Congressional pay raises. This topic has also been considered by the State of Colorado. The Colorado General Assembly recently adopted Senate Joint Memorial 99-005—sponsored by Senate President Ray Powers of Colorado Springs, and State Representative Doug Dean of Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, the Constitution of the United States also speaks to the topic of legislative pay raises. It forbids Members of Congress from voting themselves pay raises. Amendment XXVII—"the Madison Amendment"—says, "No law, varying the compensation for the services of the Senators and Representatives, shall take effect, until an election of Representatives shall have intervened."

As one who has served in the Colorado State Senate, I am persuaded Colorado's official position on the matter of pay raises is thoughtful and representative of Coloradans