

Methodist Hospital of Gary, Indiana. Carolyn serves as an elder at the Ogden Dunes Presbyterian Church and was a past recipient of the Robert Anderson Award for Exceptional Commitment to Community Service.

Though the Ribordys are dedicated to their career and community, they have never limited their time and love for their family. The Ribordys have raised four children; Cheryl, 41; Scott, 39; Nancy, 36; and Mark, 33, of whom they are immensely proud.

Mr. Speaker I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Denis and Carolyn Ribordy for receiving the 1999 Distinguished Citizen's Award. Their dedicated service to Northwest Indiana is commendable and admirable. Indiana's First Congressional District is proud to count two such dedicated, conscientious citizens, Denis and Carolyn Ribordy, among its residents.

HONORING RUBY LEE JOSEPH

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Ruby Lee Joseph, who died at the age of 67, on her birthday, June 20, 1998. Ruby Lee died surrounded by the people she loved most, her family. She was a role model, a community leader, and a dedicated mother and grandmother.

Ms. Joseph was born and raised in Houston, Texas. She graduated from Jack Yates High School in 1949. Later she was married to Leroy Joseph, and together they had seven children. They raised their children with love and a strong sense of values, and all seven successfully graduated from college.

Ruby Lee extended her familial bonds beyond those who were her blood. Throughout the community she was affectionately known as "Grann" or "Ms. Ruby". She leaves behind numerous "adopted" children and friends who will cherish her memory.

Ms. Ruby was well-known in the community for her service at East Bethel Missionary Baptist Church and the Blue Triangle YWCA. She touched many lives, friends and strangers alike. She taught her family and friends to live by the Golden Rule. She instilled in her children that you should help others who needed it and to forgive others selflessly. Ruby Lee not only taught these valuable lessons, but exhibited them in her everyday life.

Ruby Lee is preceded in death by her husband, parents, granddaughter Jasmine Joseph, and great granddaughter Tatiyana Garner.

She leaves behind her children: Paula Sharleen and husband Ronald Crawford; Jeffrey Leon, Gerald Wayne and wife Marjorie; Gregory Allen and wife Debra; Iona Pearl, Reuben Lawrence and wife Deidre; Sharon Ann and husband Aaron Hughes; grandchildren: Gregory Wayne, Consuela and husband David Garner; Marcus, Antrice, Yolande, Candace, Crystal, Corey, Courtney, Justin, Christian, Jared, Gregory II, Reuben II, Reginald, and Aaron Alexander, Audrey and Denesa; her great grandchildren: Demontray, Ariel, A'reona and Danté. She also leaves her sister Kathleen Sander and husband Lonnie; her brother Wayne Anderson and wife Rosa-

mond; her uncle Horace Mann Moore; her cousin Helen Jones; her stepmother Ruth Allen; her aunt Maggie Moore; three brothers-in-law Arthur, Ellis and Earl Joseph, and numerous "adopted" children, grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all the Members of the House to join me in paying tribute to the life of Ruby Lee Joseph. She touched our lives and our hearts, and she will be greatly missed.

TRIBUTE TO GARTH REEVES

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen of Florida's 17th Congressional District, Garth Reeves. I am recognizing Garth Reeves for receiving the lifetime achievement award from the Florida's black business investment board. Garth is a renowned recipient who is surely deserving of such a prestigious award.

Garth comes from four generations of Reeves who have managed the Miami Times, which was founded by his father, Mr. Henry E.S. Reeves, in 1923.

It is clear why Garth has been honored for this important award. He has been a reporter, editor, publisher, banker, entrepreneur, community activist and humanitarian in the Miami area who has made outstanding contributions to our community. Currently, Garth serves as publisher emeritus of the Miami Times.

The Miami Times has been instrumental in covering the human dimension of African American culture. The Reeves family has made a successful effort in establishing an African American newspaper even before Ebony and Jet Magazine. Over the years, the Miami Times has covered such outstanding African Americans as Phyllis Wheatley, Richard Allen, Florida's very own Athalie "Mama" Range, the Honorable Joe Lang Kershaw and Gwen Sawyer Cherry.

The dreams, aspirations and achievements of the African American community were also recorded in the Miami Times. Garth has made the Miami Times the voice and over the years, the written history of the African American community.

The Miami Times is the pre-eminent newspaper serving the African American community in all of Florida. It became one of the first black newspapers in America to exchange editorials, letters, and articles with the Miami Jewish Tribune. A few years later, the Miami Times began exchanging opinion pieces with one of America's great Spanish-language weeklies, the Diario Las Americas. The Miami Jewish Tribune and the Diario Las Americas have worked closely with the Miami Times to close what was seen as a growing chasm between the communities.

Garth Reeves' life has been dedicated to the achievement of excellence and service to humankind. For these reasons, I ask my colleagues to please join me in acknowledging a great American and Floridian, Mr. Garth Reeves, Sr.

IN HONOR OF PULITZER PRIZE
WINNER DAVID HORSEY

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and bring the attention of this body to the Nation's outstanding award for journalism, which was given recently to Mr. David Horsey, editorial-page cartoonist for the Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

In winning the Pulitzer Prize for editorial cartooning, Mr. Horsey has capped what is turning out to be a remarkable career in the press.

I have known and appreciated Mr. Horsey's work for more than 20 years since his graduation from the University of Washington and career at several of the State's daily newspapers, before joining the P-I staff in 1979.

As you well know, the job of an editorial cartoonist is not to make politicians feel good about themselves, and I have been a target of Mr. Horsey's journalism from time to time. But he also has the integrity to honor as well as puncture political stands, and cartoons of both types hang on the walls of my offices in Seattle and Washington, DC.

The Pulitzer might be the latest and most-recognized, but it hardly is the first journalistic honor to come David's way.

He was the National Press Foundation's 1998 Berryman Cartoonist of the Year and won first place in the Society of Professional Journalists' 1996 and 1997 competition for editorial cartooning in the Pacific Northwest. He'd already won 10 SPJ regional awards for cartooning and reporting. He won the 1994 award for Best of the West journalism competition and was the first cartoonist to win the Environmental Media Award.

David Horsey does more than draw. He was editor of his college newspaper and has worked as a reporter as well as a cartoonist. In 1986, as a Rotary Foundation Scholar, Mr. Horsey earned a master's degree in international relations from the University of Kent, at Canterbury, England. In 1993, he was one of only 25 Americans chosen to take part in the European Community Visitorship Program in Brussels.

He's also a busy husband and parent and is at work on his first novel.

Please join me today in honoring this outstanding member of Washington State's public community.

ERIC LAW HONORED FOR BRAVERY

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor Eric Law, a very brave and courageous young man. Last summer, while Eric and his family were at a hotel in Peoria, Eric noticed a girl who was at the bottom of the hotel pool, and appeared to be in trouble. Taking the initiative, Eric jumped into the pool and brought the girl to the surface. Eric was assisted in efforts to save the life of this

young girl by Mitch Jones, who helped drag the girl out of the pool and Cathy Highley, who performed CPR on the girl and restarted her breathing. On the morning of April 19th the Macon County Safe Kids Committee awarded Eric their safety Award for his bravery at Mt. Zion Jr. High School, where Eric is a student in the seventh grade.

Mr. Speaker, with the recent tragedy at a high school in Colorado, where we have all witnessed the potential destructiveness of children, it is refreshing and uplifting for me to address the Congress with Eric's story. I invite all of my colleagues to join me in wishing the best of luck to Eric in the future and thanking him for his undaunted act.

HONORING GRACE N. MITCHELL

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues the retirement of an extraordinary community leader, Dr. Grace N. Mitchell, the President of San Luis Obispo's Cuesta College.

Grace has spent her 10-year tenure as President of Cuesta College making the college shine, not only in the eyes of its students and faculty but also in the eyes of the community. Under Grace's magnificent leadership, Cuesta College earned the first-ever "Best-in-Class" California Quality Eureka Award, presented by the California Council for Quality and Service.

Grace's 35-year career has been dedicated to excellence in higher education as well as outstanding community activism. She has worked as a vice chancellor, a vice president, an assistant superintendent, dean, counselor, and advisor to many community colleges throughout California. In 1995 she was named Citizen of the Year by the San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce. She has also been recognized for her work with the Foundation for Community Design, the SLO County Economic Advisory Committee and UCSB Economic Forecast Project, and a host of other community and professional organizations.

Mr. Speaker, Grace N. Mitchell's dedication to the people with whom she works and lives is vast and unrelenting. She has proven herself to be a valuable asset to our community. I know I speak for many when I say that her commitment and vision for Cuesta College will surely be missed upon her retirement. I congratulate Grace on 35 years of service to her community and wish her all the best as she embarks on a new life journey.

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN CHINA'S XINJIANG REGION: AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT DOCUMENTS SERIOUS ABUSES

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of our Colleagues an outstanding but deeply troubling report by Am-

nesty International which was released by Amnesty at a press conference earlier today sponsored by the Congressional Human Rights Caucus.

The report—entitled "People's Republic of China: Gross Violations of Human Rights in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region"—documents in an unprecedented fashion the outrageous human rights violations in this autonomous region of China, which borders several Central Asian countries. These egregious human rights violations are committed primarily against the Uighurs, the majority ethnic group among the predominantly Muslim local population.

The appalling human rights violations, which are documented and verified for the first time by a leading international human rights organization, include a pattern of arbitrary and summary executions, torture, arbitrary detention and unjust political trials. For the first time, the Amnesty report was able to document 210 death sentences and 190 executions of political prisoners in this region. In addition, the report also documents the cases of 200 political prisoners and prisoners of conscience who were arrested during the 1990s and are still believed to be imprisoned.

Amnesty International further highlights the outrageous use of particular torture techniques which are sexual in nature, and not known to be used in other areas of the People's Republic. These forms of torture include the insertion of horsehair into the penis, as well as wires with small spikes.

Mr. Speaker, this important report further documents the dismal human rights record of the People's Republic of China. On Friday, the international community has an opportunity to take a stand against these despicable human rights practices in China, when the U.S.-sponsored resolution condemning the PRC for its human rights violations comes up for a vote at the UN Human Rights Commission. In the face of such unspeakable atrocities which are documented in the Amnesty report, I urge nations who are friends and allies of the United States to support the strong and principled stand for human rights resolution which the United States had introduced.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the executive summary of the Amnesty International report on human rights violations in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region be placed in the RECORD, and I urge my colleagues in the Congress to give thoughtful attention to its documentation of the deplorable human rights record of China.

[From Amnesty International, April 1999]

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA—GROSS VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE XINJIANG UIGHUR AUTONOMOUS REGION

In a new 92-page report, Amnesty International documents a pattern of gross violations of human rights in the Uighur Autonomous Region of Xinjiang (XUAR), one of the five autonomous regions of the People's Republic of China (RPC), which borders several Central Asian countries.

These violations include arbitrary and summary executions, torture, arbitrary detention, and unfair political trials. The main victims of these abuses are the Uighurs, the majority ethnic group among the predominantly Muslim local population in the region.

Thousands of people have been arbitrarily detained in the XUAR over the past few years and arbitrary arrests continue. Thou-

sands of political prisoners, arrested at various times during the 1990s, are reported to remain imprisoned, some have been sentenced to long prison terms after unfair trials, others still detained without charge or trial after months or years in jail. Many of those detained are reported to have been tortured, some with particularly cruel methods which, to Amnesty International's knowledge, are not being used elsewhere in the PRC. Scores of Uighur political prisoners have been sentenced to death and executed in the past two years. Others are alleged to have been killed by the security forces in circumstances which appear to constitute extra-judicial executions.

These gross violations of human rights are occurring amidst growing ethnic unrest. With a massive influx of ethnic Chinese (or Han) in the XUAR since 1949, the indigenous population has felt increasingly marginalised in what they regard as their ancestral land. Ethnic discontent has also been fuelled by government policies, unemployment, discrimination, unequal economic opportunities, and curbs on fundamental freedoms, including freedom of religion.

Over the past ten years the local ethnic population has witnessed a steady erosion of its social, economic and cultural rights. Economic development in the region has largely bypassed the local ethnic population and benefited mainly Han Chinese. Racial discrimination is reported to be common and unemployment is high among Uighurs. Despite that, the influx of Han migrant workers has considerably increased in recent years.

These trends have exacerbated long-standing ethnic tensions between Uighurs and Han Chinese in the region, and contributed to the escalation of violence. A growing number of violent incidents have been reported in the region in recent years, including attacks on government officials and offices, and the planting and detonation of bombs. Some of these incidents have been carried out by underground opposition groups seeking independence from China.

Aspirations towards independence have their roots in both the distant past and recent history. During the 1930s and 1940s, two independent Republics of Eastern Turkestan were formed successively in Kashgar (1933) and Ili (1944) as attempts to resist Chinese rule. Both republics were short-lived, but they have continued to inspire nationalist oppositions since 1949, particularly among the Uighurs. Over the years, various opposition groups militating for Eastern Turkestan's independence were formed clandestinely in the XUAR—some reportedly supported by exiled nationalist groups established among the Uighur diaspora in various countries. Some of these groups have resorted to violence.

Since 1990, the Chinese authorities' fears of organised political opposition in the XUAR appear to have been heightened by the emergence of independent Central Asian states which followed the breakup of the Soviet Union, and the rise of Islamic movements as well as protracted conflicts in other neighbouring countries. This has led to a reversal of the relatively liberal policies implemented in the region during the 1980s, notably concerning religion.

While the "open door" policy led to a religious revival in the XUAR during the 1980s, since 1990 the government has reverted to restrictive policies amidst fears that Islam might provide a rallying point for ethnic nationalism and that Islamic movements abroad might inspire young Uighurs. Many mosques and Koranic schools have been closed down in the region and religious leaders who are deemed to be too independent or