

him." Elian was begging for milk; his mother had given him her sweater to protect him from the chilly waters.

Mr. Fernandez and Ms. Horta dozed off again. Hours later they were awakened by sharks nipping at their legs. (Both showed me their scars: Mr. Fernandez has several dozen small tooth marks on his ankles; Ms. Horta has three larger wounds on her thighs.)

They were alone. The rope that held the inner tubes together had come loose as they slept. Mr. Fernandez, who had tried to lift the others' spirits, found himself losing hope. "I'm tired," he told Ms. Horta. "I can't make it. I want to die."

As night fell, the couple saw lights in the distance. They tried swimming toward shore, but the current was against them. Again they slept.

They awoke at dawn on Thanksgiving Day. Closer to shore, they began swimming toward land. They arrived in Key Biscayne, Fla., yacht harbor. They had made it.

Exhausted and dehydrated, they collapsed. Later Mr. Fernandez, lying in bed in a Miami hospital, told police there might be other survivors. A cop showed him a photo: "Did this little kid come with you?"

"Yes, Is he alive?" Elian had made it too.

After leaving the hospital, Mr. Fernandez and Ms. Horta went straight to the immigration office and began the process of becoming Americans. Their new lives are a classic immigrant struggle. Ms. Horta is going to school to learn English. Mr. Fernandez, the erstwhile five-star chef, is looking for work; last week he had an interview for a job washing cars at an auto dealership.

Nivado Fernandez is full of faith in his new country. "I was born on July 3, 1967," he says, "I was born again on Nov. 25, 1999, because that's when I came to the land of liberty." Would he do it again if he knew how harrowing the journey would be? "Yes. Even if I died in the middle of the sea, I would have died with dignity, trying to come to this country."

Arianne Horta longs to be reunited with Estefani, her five-year-old daughter. The Immigration and Naturalization Service, the selfsame agency that is demanding Elian's immediate deportation in the name of family reunification, tells Horta it can't do anything about her little girl until Ms. Horta attains residency status, which won't happen until next year. In contrast to Elian's father, last seen ranting on ABC's "Nightline" about his desire to assassinate U.S. politicians, Ms. Horta maintains a quiet dignity. "I cry a lot," she says.

This week Congress will take up legislation to declare Elian Gonzalez a U.S. citizen. It should extend the same privilege to Estefani Erera. There's no guarantee that Fidel Castro would allow her to emigrate, but such an action would remove the obstacle on this side of the Florida Straits. Making Estefani an American would be a fitting tribute to her mother's heroism—and to the memories of the 11 who didn't make it.

HONORING THE JEWISH HOME FOR THE AGED ON ITS 85TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2000

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to honor an organization that has been an invaluable asset to the New Haven, Connecticut community since

its inception 85 years ago—the Jewish Home for the Aged.

In October, the Jewish Home for the Aged celebrated 85 years of care and service to the elderly of our community. Founded by the Sisters of Zion, what began as a small sanctuary for poor, elderly Jewish men and women without families, has grown into a distinguished and highly respected nursing care facility. Over the years, the home has worked diligently to address the ever-changing needs of our aging population. Throughout its history, quality care has been their prime goal, constantly expanding both in space and services.

Through personal appeals and their first Charity Ball, in 1916 the Sisters of Zion were able to raise the funds necessary to purchase a wood house at 169 Davenport Avenue in New Haven, giving the Jewish Home for the Aged its first residence. In its formative years, the Jewish Home for the Aged was run completely by women, an unique undertaking given the times. Every succession of Board members has had to grapple with the financial realities of caring for the elderly. As a non-profit, the Home has had extraordinary success through a myriad of fund-raising efforts, a strong tradition that continues today. Throughout its rich history, the remarkable success of the Jewish Home for the Aged has been due to the strong leadership and dedication of the staff and administration—our sincere thanks to them for all of their extraordinary efforts.

This past year, the Home suffered an enormous loss with the unexpected passing of its Executive Director, and my dear friend, Rick Wallace. Rick was an incredible leader, committed to overcoming the massive changes and rising costs in health care that have impeded our seniors from accessing quality care. He held a strong belief that in order to meet these new challenges, Jewish organizations throughout the community would have to work together to provide their residents with a continuum of care. Dedicated to the Home's future success, Rick ensured that the Home was a founding member of the Jewish Care Network. Rick dedicated his career to the mission of the Home and it is my hope that they will carry on his strength and vision as they move ahead into the future.

The Jewish Home for the Aged has had an invaluable impact on our community since its founding. I am indeed proud to stand today to honor them as they celebrate their 85th anniversary and to extend my best wishes for continued success.

NORTHERN IRELAND IN CRISIS AS SAINT PATRICK'S DAY APPROACHES

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, next week is Saint Patrick's Day, when so many Irish and their many friends around the globe celebrate the great patron saint's day of honor. This year's Saint Patrick's day was to have held out great hope for lasting peace and justice in the long troubled north of Ireland. The Irish and peace loving people all over the world were joyous last November 29th when the

new Northern Ireland power sharing executive was finally formed and the British government devolved most of home rule to Belfast. Along with the Northern Ireland assembly, north/south and east/west bodies, the future of all of the island of Ireland was bright for peaceful democratic change in the unsatisfactory status quo that has long been the north of Ireland. The Good Friday accord supported by the people of both the north and south of Ireland was finally being implemented and change was to come through democratic means and new power sharing institutions.

It was a step backwards in the search for lasting peace and justice in the north of Ireland when the British Government on February 11, 2000 suspended the power sharing institutions that had been the best chance to produce overall change in the north, including decommissioning.

Regrettably, the Irish peace process since February 11, 2000 is once again in crisis. The most recent announcement that the IRA is withdrawing from their efforts with the arms decommissioning body is another body blow to a fragile and tenuous future in the north of Ireland.

Even after positive steps were being made to resolve the arms issue—the IRA had committed to put them beyond use—the old unionist veto by the Ulster Unionist Party (UUP) forced the suspension of power sharing under the threat of resignation by the UUP's First Minister, David Trimble from the new local government. Terms of the Good Friday Accord set out simultaneous time frames for removal of the guns on both sides from Irish politics.

Those who have unilaterally changed its terms and exercised a veto over its operation must explain their intransigence, and be held accountable for failing to carry out the terms of the Good Friday peace accord.

In order to create the climate for arms decommissioning as envisioned by the terms of the Good Friday Accord, power-sharing institutions must be reestablished, sooner rather than later.

The accord itself set a mid-May 2000 time frame for good faith efforts by all sides at getting all of arms decommission in the North Ireland. Regrettably, the institutions that should have been in place for the last 18 months has only been up and running for just the last 10 weeks. Now they have been suspended.

We soon will have the marching season again in the north of Ireland. We cannot let the political vacuum in the north go on indefinitely. We need the political institutions up and running so change can come peacefully through democratic means. Only then can we expect the political process that the Good Friday accord set in motion can help make the guns on both sides in the north, both irrelevant, and unnecessary.

The parties need to get back to the table and fully implement the Good Friday Accord. As Senator George Mitchell has wisely said, history might forgive the failure to reach an agreement in the long conflict over Northern Ireland, but will never forgive the failure to implement one that has been agreed upon by both governments and all of the parties in the long troubled region.

Let us, on this St. Patrick's Day, hope and pray for a united, peaceful Ireland.

HONORING THE TORRANCE
MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER

HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2000

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Torrance Memorial Medical Center, and important facility within my district. The largest community hospital in the area, Torrance Memorial is currently celebrating its 75th anniversary.

For 75 years, the Torrance Memorial Medical Center has played an integral role in the health and welfare of the South Bay and Peninsula communities. The medical center has come a long way since it first opened its doors in 1925. More babies were delivered and more patients were admitted during the last quarter of 1999 than during its first ten years in operation.

With 380 beds, the Torrance facility is widely recognized as one of the most technologically advanced private hospitals in the regions. A leader in the health care industry, Torrance Memorial specializes in acute care, particularly in the areas of cardiology, cancer treatment, burn treatment, and neonatal care. The center has provided first rate medical care to tens of thousands of local residents throughout the years.

Torrance Memorial is an active member of the community. It is a pioneer in prevention, education, and community services providing classes, lectures, daycare, and physician referrals to help the residents of the South Bay and surrounding communities play a greater role in their own health.

I commend the staff and volunteers of the Torrance Memorial Medical Center for providing such outstanding care, and I congratulate them on this milestone. The South Bay is grateful for your services.

TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA CAMPBELL
GLENN

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2000

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring a woman of remarkable accomplishments, Patricia Campbell Glenn, who has earned a reputation as an outstanding public servant.

As the Regional Director of the United States Department of Justice, Community Relations Service in Region II consisting of New York, New Jersey, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, her agency is responsible for the mediation of all community-based racial and ethnic disputes. Ms. Glenn has the distinction of being the only female director in the country. During her tenure at the Department, she was deputized as a special U.S. Marshall in Conway County, Arkansas; she mediated systemic issues cases in federal correctional facilities, and she mediated disputes between Native Americans and the federal government. In 1996, she was selected to direct the National Arson Task Force in Washington, D.C. for the Community Relations Service. The

Task Force had the direct responsibility for the resolution of all disputes related to the arson of churches. Ms. Glenn has conducted Hate Crime training with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center out of Glynco, Georgia since 1992, the U.S. Trustees, Bankruptcy Courts, the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the U.S. Secret Service, Uniform Division.

Her impressive achievements include being selected as one of the fifty outstanding females in the Justice system; becoming the first female to receive the Outstanding Regional Director Award; being listed in Who's Who in American Women and in the Midwest; and being selected in 1998 as National Mother of the Year by the Ashley Steward Retail Association. In addition, she was responsible for the first nationwide agreement with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide assistance when problems between races and cultures arose during national disasters; mediation of community concern regarding police practices in Paterson, New Brunswick, Montclair and Newark, New Jersey; mediation between African American and Jewish faculty at Kean University; and many other achievements. She received a B.S. in English Education from Ohio State University and an M.A. in Speech Communication from Montclair State University. She has lectured at Yale University, conducted classes at Passaic Community College, taught Conflict Resolution in Moscow and established conflict resolution programs in St. Petersburg and Komi, Russia. Currently, she is an adjunct instructor at Montclair State University.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in paying tribute to a remarkable public servant, Patricia Campbell Glenn, for her highly successful work and in wishing her all the best in her future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2000

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, March 8, 2000, I was unavoidably late in returning from California. If I had been here to vote, I would have voted "yea" for all of the following:

H.R. 1827—Government Waste Corrections Act; H.R. 2952—To redesignate the Facility of the U.S. Postal Service in Greenville, South Carolina as the Keith D. Oglesby Station; H.R. 3018—To designate the U.S. Postal Office in Charleston, South Carolina as the Marybelle H. Howe Post Office; S. Con. Res. 91—Congratulating the Republic of Lithuania on the tenth anniversary of the reestablishment of its independence from the rule of the former Soviet Union; and H.J. Res. 86—Recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Korean War and the service by members of the Armed Forces.

HONORING NANNIE PARKS ROGERS AS THE 1999 NCNW APPRECIATION AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2000

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to join the New Haven National Council of Negro Women in posthumously honoring my good friend, Nannie Parks Rogers, with their annual appreciation award.

Each year the NCNW of New Haven recognizes outstanding men, women, and youngsters for their efforts on behalf of our community. These annual awards honor individuals who have reached out to the community and dedicated themselves to the continued improvement and enhancement of Greater New Haven.

Nan Rogers was an extraordinary figure who enriched the lives of everyone she touched. Spending more than forty years in the field of education, Nan worked closely with people as both an educator and counselor. Her dedication and strong belief in the vital importance of education led her through an unparalleled career. Nan valued the opportunities her career offered—from young children beginning their formal education, to teens as they made their choices about life, and finally to adults returning to college and restructuring their lives.

A longtime resident of the Newhallville neighborhood in New Haven, Nan was an active member in many organizations throughout the city. Among the myriad of activities she was involved in were her memberships in St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, the National Council of Negro Women, the Mary B. Ashford Adult Services Center, the NAACP, the Business and Professional Women's Club, and the Inner City Day Care Council, Inc. Nan is also credited as a founder of the African American Women's Agenda, a community based group whose goal is to address the issues affecting African American women and to ensure that their voices are heard, both locally and nationally. Nan was a true advocate for her community, striving to enhance the quality of life for our children and families.

Sadly, Nan passed away in March of this year at the age of 70. I am fortunate enough to have known Nan and blessed to have called her my friend. I would like to extend my sincere sympathies to her daughter, Robin, grandchildren, Marcus and Sarah, family, and friends. Nan will certainly be missed but her contributions will not be forgotten. I am truly honored to stand today to pay tribute to Nannie Parks Rogers as the recipient of the 1999 NCNW Appreciation Award Recipient.

SENIOR CITIZENS FREEDOM TO
WORK ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to strongly support H.R. 5, The Senior Citizens