

multi-cultural history of the southwest to be made available to present and future generations. Over time they have raised almost \$6 million from state, city, and private sources to acquire a building, the land, and planning for the new annex. The amount, however, is far from sufficient enough to meet the projected total project cost of an additional \$32 million. Thus, it is imperative that Federal funds be provided.

The bill I am presenting today will help ensure these treasures are protected and funds are provided, so that we save the irreplaceable collections of the Palace of the Governors from the danger of being forever lost. The bill would authorized \$15 million dollars through the Department of Interior, and will assist the Palace of the Governors construct and also equip their new annex. It will also make the vast collections available for exhibition to future generations of Americans and for study by scholars who currently cannot access them because of a lack of appropriate facilities.

Mr. Speaker, the Palace of the Governors is not only an irreplaceable jewel in New Mexico's history, but the history of our Hispanic Southwest and our country as a whole. I urge that we act to support this aspect of our nation's history with the foresight that will reward our children with these unique, historical, and cultural gifts drawn from our country's amazing diversity.

TRIBUTE ON THE PASSING OF DR.
HARGROVE F. WOOTEN

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, tonight I pay tribute to an outstanding man, community leader and distinguished Physician, Dr. Hargrove F. Wooten. I was saddened at hearing of the passing of Dr. Wooten: husband, father, grandfather, colleague, and friend to those who knew him.

Dr. Wooten was born in Jacksonville, Florida on October 9, 1925. As a child, he attended local public schools in Jacksonville. In Jacksonville, Dr. Watson dreamed of enriching the life of his community and becoming a doctor. He would later pursue his dreams at Xavier University in New Orleans, Louisiana, where he earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Pharmacy and Meharry Medical College, where he earned his doctorate in medicine. At these two prestigious and renowned universities, his goals to pursue a medical career were nurtured and his dedication to his community was enriched.

Dr. Watson continued to further his education by obtaining his Master of Science degree at Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas and completed his residency in Ophthalmology at the University of Texas Health Science Center. After completing his medical degree, he serves an intern through a rotating internship in Houston and was the first African-American to intern at the Memorial Hospital system.

As a practicing pharmacist and CEO of the self entitled Wooten's Pharmacy Chain, a university physician for the University of Houston from 1966 to 1972 and CEO of both Physicians Eye Associates and Hargrove F.

Wooten M.D. and Associates, Dr. Wooten tirelessly worked to improve the health of Houston area residents.

Throughout his lifetime, Dr. Wooten's leadership was sought and admired by many of his peers. He served as the President of both the Houston Pharmaceutical Association, the Lone Star State Pharmaceutical Association, and the Houston Medical Forum. In 1994–1996, Dr. Wooten was elected by Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity to be their Grand Sire Archon. In addition, he was a member in sixteen honorary, professional and civic organizations including the NAACP, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Chi Delta Mu Professional Fraternity and the American Academy of Ophthalmology.

As a husband, Dr. Wooten was his wife's best friend, companion, and advisor. As a father, he was his three daughters' counselor, aide, and friend. A father in the true sense of the word and a man of the finest hour, Dr. Wooten was a friend, mentor and counselor to many. His daughters, Florence, Patrice and Sharon knew that he loved them through his 49 years of matrimony to their mother, Eleanor.

At this sad time, I offer the Wooten Family my deepest sympathy. While I am aware that no words of consolation can ease the hurt and sense of loss that you now feel, I hope that in time, you will be comforted by the legacy of accomplishments that he left behind. I hope that the fond memories of experiences you shared with him will continue to inspire you in the future.

SUPPRESSION OF PEACEFUL
DEMONSTRATORS IN BELARUS

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, March 9, I chaired a hearing of the Helsinki Commission at which we heard compelling and disturbing testimony about the deterioration of human rights and democracy in Belarus. I was pleased to have as one of our witnesses Anatoly Lebedka, Deputy Chairman of Belarus' legitimate parliament, disbanded by Belarusian strongman Alyaksandr Lukashenka following an illegitimate 1996 referendum.

Unfortunately, Mr. Lebedka was one of some 500 people arrested last weekend, during a peaceful pro-democracy demonstration in Miensk. He was reportedly beaten and spent two days in detention before he was released. He is scheduled to go to trial on April 4. Also detained without explanation were more than 30 Belarusian, Russian and Polish journalists. Film shot by press photographers was reportedly confiscated. Aleh Hrudzilovich, a journalist with the opposition newspaper Nasha Svaboda and Radio Liberty who was initially detained on March 25, was summoned for interrogation on March 27, handcuffed, and then hit several times in the face while being transported by police to a detention center. He was released later that day. Other detainees also reportedly suffered physical abuse by the police. Several demonstrators have been put on trial, and some have already been sentenced to short-term detentions.

Mr. Speaker, during the Helsinki Commission hearing, I asked Mr. Lebedka about the

scheduled March demonstrations, where he expressed the fear that there might be deliberate provocations by the police, as had been the case at a Freedom March rally last October. Fortunately, a large peaceful protest held on March 15 was held without any problems. According to many observers, including Mr. Lebedka, the growing number of participants in the officially-approved 30,000 strong March 15 demonstration prompted Lukashenka to take harsh measures against the March 25 demonstrators. Indeed, this comports with Lukashenka's recent warning that protestors who "get out of line" will have "the stuffing" beat out of them.

Mr. Speaker, the suppression of the March 25 demonstration is yet another illustration of the Lukashenka regime's disregard for fundamental human rights, including freedom of assembly and association, and information. It is another among a long list of outrages perpetrated by Lukashenka upon the people of Belarus. It is yet another in a pattern of violations of human rights commitments, which Belarus freely undertook when it joined the OSCE in 1992.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to reiterate my strong concern for the safety of Anatoly Lebedka and all the other pro-democracy activists in Belarus, and I look forward to the day when democracy will flourish someday in Belarus.

IN HONOR OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY
UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S
BASKETBALL

HON. KEN LUCAS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, today I salute an outstanding group of young women in the Fourth Congressional District of Kentucky. This weekend, the Northern Kentucky University Women Basketball team—the Norse—won the NCAA Division II National Championship in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. Their achievement capped a year of hard work and dedication, and they are role models for girls and boys in Kentucky and across the nation.

I also congratulate Nancy Winstel, now in her 17th season as Head Coach. Nancy is a native of Newport, Kentucky, and a graduate of NKU. She played for the Norse from 1974 to 1977. Nancy returned to the University in 1981 as an assistant coach, and has served as head coach since 1983. During her tenure, the Norse have compiled a 362–120 overall record and have made ten NCAA tournament appearances. Winning the 2000 National Championship is a particularly fitting reward for her 22 years of commitment to the NKU Women's Basketball program.

Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I failed to commend Michelle Cottrell, a starting forward for the Norse, and the Most Outstanding Player for this year's tournament. During the final game, Michelle scored 23 points and tallied 19 rebounds. Her double-double is not surprising to anyone who has watched her play over the years; this season, she scored an average of 17.3 points and 9.4 rebounds. Michelle is a graduate of Boone County High School, and I know that the entire Northern Kentucky community takes pride in her accomplishments.

I also salute the other members of the team, many of whom were also raised in Northern

Kentucky. I submit their names here for the record: Heather Livingstone, of Winneconne, Wisconsin; Suzie Smith, of Florence, Kentucky; Michele Tuchfarber, of Cincinnati, Ohio; Rebecca Bell, of Taylor Mill, Kentucky; Lisa Geiman, of Cold Spring, Kentucky; Julie Cowens, of Cold Spring, Kentucky; Amy Mobley, of Harrison, Ohio; Bridget Flanagan, of Cincinnati, Ohio; Kristin Polosky, of Bobtown, Pennsylvania; and Jessica Jenson, of Barberton, Ohio. I also recognize Assistant Coaches Brian Neal and Chris Gramke.

Mr. Speaker, in this era when we worry about role models for our children, I am proud to know these young women. They have proven that athletics can help instill values like hard work, discipline, and teamwork. I know that young people all over the Commonwealth and across the Nation will recognize the achievements of NKU Women's Basketball and follow their example. As for myself, I am looking forward to another exciting season of Norse basketball in 2000–2001.

REAUTHORIZATION OF THE
UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

HON. CHRIS CANNON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce legislation to reauthorize the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. This spring will mark 7 years of success for the Museum, which is visited by millions of people each year through its acclaimed exhibitions, education opportunities, publications, and outreach programs. Created by a unanimous act of Congress in 1980, the Museum continues to receive strong support and recognition.

In addition to its primary mission of advancing and communicating knowledge of Holocaust history, the Museum offers an opportunity for its visitors to reflect upon the moral and spiritual questions raised by the Holocaust. The success of the Museum clearly demonstrates the public's deep interest in contemplating and gaining valuable lessons from the Holocaust.

Some of the key accomplishments that illustrate the exceptional success of the Museum over the past 7 years include:

Nearly 14 million visitors, of which 3.7 million have been children. In addition, 61 heads of state have visited, along with 2,000 foreign officials from 130 nations.

In response to public demand, the development of educational and scholarly outreach, with the Museum sponsoring travel exhibitions in 27 cities over the past several years.

Over 1.5 million visits to its web site each year.

Educational materials and programs serving 25,000 educators across the United States annually.

Recognition internationally as a center for Holocaust research and remembrance. There continues to be a dramatic growth in its collections, including more than 35,000 artifacts, 12 million pages of archival documents, 65,000 photographic images, oral histories from over 6,000 individuals, a library of over 30,000 volumes in 18 languages, and a renowned registry of Holocaust survivors and their families with a total of 165,000 listings.

Invaluable references service to the public, with the Museum's archival, photo, historian's office, and library staff responding to over 18,000 requests each year for information, guidance, and services.

These exceptional accomplishments clearly demonstrate the Museum's extraordinary adherence to public service and the success it has achieved both on the National Mall and across the United States. The passage of time continues to deepen the urgency and importance of the Museum's role in the United States and its powerful mission of carrying the legacy of Holocaust remembrance, education, and conscience forward into the 21st century. With its commitment to education and service, this Museum is key to strengthening our ability to understand history's painful lessons, to helping us overcome the worst of human impulses, and to improving our future.

As a member of the Museum's Council I am proud to introduce this legislation and I urge my colleagues to join me, and the 24 original cosponsors, in supporting the mission of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and its enduring role in our society.

THE U.S.S. "HOGA"

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce a bill which authorizes the use of a vessel to transport the naval harbor tug USS *Hoga* to Port Everglades, Florida, for use as a memorial to veterans and provide vocational seamanship training.

This bill will carry out the longstanding intent of Congress in preserving and protecting historic landmarks and national monuments. The USS *Hoga* is recognized by the United States Park Service as a national monument, and appears in the national register of historic places. Unfortunately, the USS *Hoga* is no longer seaworthy, and cannot safely be towed on the open sea. If towed through the water, it may fall apart, and we stand to lose this national monument forever. Thus, I encourage you, Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues here in Congress, to support this initiative that will allow a means to transport the USS *Hoga* on a transporter vessel, enabling the ship to arrive undamaged to the state of Florida.

Veterans have long been the thread holding together our nation, defining American independence, and ensuring American freedom. Despite the high concentration of World War II veterans in Florida, with the majority of them calling South Florida home, the state of Florida is the only coastal state without a commemorative World War II warship. This legislation will assist the USS *Hoga* Association in transporting the USS *Hoga* to its final resting place at the New River in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

Mr. Speaker, in the next two decades, the last of the World War II veterans will have passed on. As an immobile World War II veteran, the USS *Hoga* will be a place for future generations to pay homage to those who fought bravely under the United States flag. The USS *Hoga* is indeed a national treasure, and will serve many additional uses in the state of Florida. Currently, boatyards are un-

deremployed, and fewer Americans consider a calling to defend our great country. In addition to being a memorial, the USS *Hoga* will be used to train students in seamanship duties and promote national defense by preparing young Americans for service in the United States Navy.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, let me say that I take a great deal of pride in the fact that South Florida boasts one of the nations highest percentage of World War II veterans. I would also like to commend the USS *Hoga* Association for the tremendous work and effort it has contributed to attain this goal. As we approach the 60 year mark commemorating the beginning of World War II, I ask that we fulfill a small request made by Florida veterans to aid them in transporting a tribute to those citizens who fought for our country.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill.

CONGRATULATING THOSE INVOLVED IN THE FLORENCE, WISCONSIN FOOD, FUN AND FITNESS SUMMER PROGRAM

HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, today I'd like to offer my enthusiastic congratulations before the U.S. House to all those involved in the Florence, Food, Fun and Fitness Summer program. Their hard work and innovative efforts have improved the health of our young people and deservedly garnered accolades and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Summer Sunshine Award for Child Development.

Everyone who is a part of the Food, Fun and Fitness program should feel a great sense of pride—not only for being honored by the USDA and others, but for genuinely enhancing the health and quality of life of our children. Thanks to this program, the kids involved have learned countless new life lessons, from a new understanding of the importance of food and where it comes from to the new friendships and wisdom they have shared with the seniors who have joined with them in this program.

This program is the direct result of a successful partnership between Florence Nutrition Program Educator Katie Tartar and the University of Wisconsin Extension, Florence School District, Florence Sheriff's Department, General Colin Powell and America's Promise, the Family Resource Center of Florence County, County Activity Co-op, Spread Eagle Sporting, the Master Gardener Association and the residents of Chapin Heights Apartments.

Mr. Speaker, the Florence Food, Fun and Fitness program is a shining example of what communities can achieve by bringing all their resources to bear in a common effort. It is a program I believe other American communities should look to and emulate.

To the folks in Florence, congratulations, thank you, and keep up the great work!