

husband, William Frank Perry Jr. in the Bushwick section of Brooklyn, New York. They have one son, William Frank Perry III.

She is an assistant to Brooklyn Borough President Howard Golden, and serves as a liaison to the Brooklyn Christian community. She has been an active member of the Berean Missionary Baptist Church in Brooklyn for 49 years. Ophelia has a passion for her community and civic affairs. She is currently the president of ChurchWomen United in Brooklyn, an ecumenical movement of Christian women. Under Mrs. Perry's leadership, the membership has increased to include over 700 Christian women. It is the largest unit of CWU in the country.

CWU sponsors many other activities to raise funds for contributions to others in need, such as it's Prison Ministry and holiday sharing program where 2,000 bedside bags are annually prepared and distributed to hospitals, nursing homes and to those who are incarcerated. The group also contributed to world wide church activities. In addition to supporting the Bedford-Stuyvesant Ambulance Service, recently CWU really supported the flood victims in North Carolina.

In response to shrewd spiritual insight, Ophelia conceived the idea for an observance centered on "The Seven Last Words of Christ". For 16 years, the ecumenical worship service has begun at 7:00 am on Good Friday and the attendance continues to grow. These services have been held in various community churches and have continued to draw over 3,000 worshipers. Participants travel throughout the metropolitan area and from many other parts of the United States to attend this annual worship celebration.

Ophelia Perry serves as the chairperson of the Development Committee of the Brooklyn Division of the Council of Churches. She is a lifetime member of the National Council of Negro Women, Brooklyn section. She is also a member of the Society for the Preservation of Weeksville. Ophelia has been honored and recognized for her civic work and achievements. Her many awards include: "Woman of the Year"—The National Conference of Christians and Jews; Salute to Brooklyn Women Leadership Humanitarian Award—The Brooklyn Urban League; The Caribbean American Award—Chamber of Commerce: Outstanding Service Award—The Council of Churches—City of New York; "Woman of Influence"—Brooklyn YWCA; Thomas R. Fortune Community Service Award—Unity Democratic Club; Valiant Women Award—Church Women United; The Sandy F. Ray Award; and The Christian Service award.

I wish to recognize the lifelong efforts of Ophelia Young Perry, and wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

#### RECOGNITION OF WIRELESS SAFETY WEEK, MISS AMY SPARKS, AND GN NETCOM

##### HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 6, 2000*

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity to recognize Wireless Safety Week 2000, which is held the week leading into Memorial Day Weekend (May 22–

28, 2000). Wireless carriers and hardware manufacturers have sponsored this initiative every year since 1990 to focus attention on the benefits of responsible cell phone use. During Wireless Safety Week 2000, the wireless industry reminds customers and consumers that safety is the most important call they will ever make.

More than 90 million people in the United States today take advantage of the convenience, value and safety of wireless phones. One of these 90 million is Ms. Amy Sparks, of Bethlehem, New Hampshire.

Ms. Sparks used her wireless phone twice in one week to call for emergency assistance. While on her way from school, she witnessed a car accident and immediately called emergency services and offered road-side assistance to those involved. Two days later, Amy again witnessed an accident. Once more she called emergency assistance and stayed with the drivers until help arrived on the scene. That Amy is a Good Samaritan and heroine is evident.

GN Netcom has been an integral part of the Nashua, New Hampshire community since 1995, and employs over 250 highly-skilled employees. This company has grown over the last 13 years to become the world leader in cordless/wireless headset solutions. P. Michael Fairweather, President and CEO of GN Netcom, has long been active in helping to educate consumers on their need to use their wireless phones safely and responsibly. The entire wireless industry deserves credit for its strong effort to educate the American public of the responsibility each of us has when using a wireless phone while driving.

In closing, I wish to commend Amy Sparks for her quick and admirable actions, and all GN Netcom employees for their efforts to save lives, stop crime, summon assistance, and make their communities a better place to live.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE 65TH INFANTRY REGIMENT FROM PUERTO RICO/BORINQUEÑEERS

##### HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 6, 2000*

Mr. PASCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention to the deeds of the 65th Infantry Regiment from Puerto Rico, which was recognized on Friday, May 26, 2000 because of its many years of service and leadership. The regiment, honored by the Puerto Rican Parade of Paterson 2000/Desfile Puertorriqueno, Inc. 2000, is celebrating a century of service to the nation and the 50th anniversary of its participation in the Korean Conflict.

The 65th Infantry Regiment was organized on March 2, 1899; one year after United States Military Forces occupied Puerto Rico during the Spanish-American War. The group began as a volunteer force charged with defending the island. Even though it was an active Army Regiment, Puerto Ricans that enlisted or were appointed as officers in the 65th could expect to spend their entire military careers in Puerto Rico.

In 1917, one year after Puerto Ricans were granted American citizenship, the 65th was reorganized as the Puerto Rican Regiment of In-

fantry. In 1920 it became the 65th Infantry Regiment.

During World War I, the 65th Infantry protected the Panama Canal Zone against Germany and other opposing nations. After the war, they returned to garrison duty in Puerto Rico.

During World War II, the 65th moved first to Panama in January of 1943, then to France in September 1944. The 65th fought in several European battlefields, including, the decisive skirmish near the River Arno, the Ardennes and other key engagements along the French and Italian borders. The unit also carried out civil actions and security duties such as guarding high-ranking Nazi officials during the Nuremberg trials.

The 65th became a highly decorated unit during the second World War, with members earning the Distinguished Service Cross, two Silver Stars, 90 Purple Hearts, 22 Bronze Stars and 1,367 Combat Infantry Badges. After the war, the group returned to garrison duty in Puerto Rico.

On September 23, 1950, the 65th Infantry Regiment entered the Korean Conflict. This unit, the only segregated Hispanic unit in the Army's history was composed mostly of native Puerto Ricans. In Korea the group participated in nine major campaigns, saw intense action and distinguished itself with gallant combat performances. It became one of the most highly decorated army units in history. These honors include a United States Presidential Unit Citation, a Meritorious Unit Commendation, two Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citations and the Greek Gold Medal for Bravery.

The men of the 65th Infantry, the "Borinqueneers" as they came to be known, were awarded four distinguished Service Crosses, 155 Silver Stars, 562 Bronze Stars and 1,014 Purple Hearts among other awards. Borinqueneers is a word indigenous to Puerto Rico meaning, "native islander."

The United States Army dissolved the 65th Infantry Regiment in 1956. On February 15, 1959 the 65th Infantry became a regiment in the Puerto Rico Army National Guard.

Today the 65th Infantry continues its proud tradition of service as part of the 92nd Infantry Brigade.

In 1992, the National Guard honored the unit with a Heritage painting. The scene depicts the regiment conducting a bayonet charge against a Chinese division in Korea on February 2, 1951. More than 61,000 Puerto Ricans served in the Korean Conflict. More than 6,000 served in the 65th. In addition, more than 732 Puerto Ricans lost their lives in Korea.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Puerto Rican Parade of Paterson 2000/Desfile Puertorriqueno, Inc. 2000, Puerto Rico, the United States and me in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable contributions of the 65th Infantry Regiment from Puerto Rico. Throughout its 100 years of service, the 65th has always lived up to its motto, "Honor and Fidelity."

S. 1402, VETERANS AND DEPENDENTS MILLENNIUM EDUCATION ACT

**HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 6, 2000*

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, as an original co-sponsor of the House version of this measure, I commend the House and the House Veterans' Affairs Committee for bringing this long-awaited increase in education resources for veterans to quick passage. I urge the Senate to accept the House version and send this bill to the President.

In this legislation, we boost Montgomery GI bill funding significantly. The increase is fully offset and will go directly to veterans to help pay for their education. The bill would primarily increase the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) benefit from \$536 to \$600 per month on October 1, 2000, and to \$720 per month on October 1, 2002, for full-time students, with proportionate increases for part-time students. I am disappointed that we cannot offer a benefit which is tied to the real escalating costs of higher education, and plans that recognize the actual growing costs of tuition should be given their day.

As a college professor who taught and advised students who were eligible for Montgomery GI bill benefits, I know first hand the tremendous help that this program has conferred upon those who have served their nation.

I am pleased with the additional provisions of S. 1402. As amended, these include:

1. Furnishing individuals still on active duty who either turned down a previous opportunity to convert to the MGIB or had a zero balance in their Vietnam-era Veterans' Education Assistance Program (VEAP) account, the option to pay \$2,700 to convert to MGIB eligibility.

2. Increasing survivors' and dependents' educational assistance benefits for full-time students from \$485 to \$600 per month effective October 1, 2000, and \$720 per month effective October 1, 2002, with proportionate increases for part-time students; also authorizes an annual cost of living adjustment.

4. Permitting the award of Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance payments to be retroactive to the date of the entitling event, that is, service-connected death or award of 100 percent disability rating.

5. Allowing monthly educational assistance benefits to be paid between term, quarter, or semester intervals of up to 8 weeks.

6. Allowing use of MGIB benefits to pay the fee for a veteran's civilian occupational licensing or certification examination.

The added flexibility this bill would provide is crucial as more and more veterans seek higher education after their service. While this does not satisfy all the problems that may be out there or emerge in the future, it goes a long way in boosting the finest educational program for those who have served, the Montgomery GI bill.

I regret missing the vote on this important bill, where I would have voted aye on passage, as I was in the district attending my daughter's high school graduation.

TRIBUTE TO NORBERT L. KANE, AN OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR AND CHICAGO CITIZEN

**HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 6, 2000*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute today to a dedicated educator who has spent the last 44 years serving the Chicago Public School (CPS) system and the Southwest side of Chicago. This year, Norbert L. Kane, an Assistant Principal at Hubbard High School, will be retiring after 35 years of hard work for local students.

Norbert Kane represents all that Chicago citizens can ask for in an educator. He is a devoted family man, married to Delores Kane and a father of six children. Professionally, Norbert excelled in the program of management for Hubbard High School—Region 5. With his many organizational talents, Norbert earned the respect of his many colleagues and students.

In addition, Norbert has been honored for his many self-less contributions to the 3rd Congressional District and Southwest Chicago. For several years, Mr. Kane administered the Combined Charities Campaign, as well as numerous blood drives. He has also served as American Legion District Commander—1st Division, while being constantly committed to the beautification of Hubbard High School.

Mr. Speaker, Hubbard High School is regrettably going to lose an outstanding Assistant Principal and public servant. It gives me great pleasure to share Mr. Kane's accomplishments with my colleagues today. Again, I thank Norbert L. Kane for his many years of service, and I wish him equal success in his retirement.

**THE RESURRECTION PROJECT  
CELEBRATES ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 6, 2000*

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege for me to pay tribute to the Resurrection Project (TRP) for its invaluable work creating healthy communities on the occasion of its 10th anniversary.

Founded on May 22, 1990 by a coalition of Pilsen churches, The Resurrection Project is an institution-based neighborhood organization whose mission is to build relationships and challenge people to act on their faith and values to create healthy communities through organizing, education and community development.

The Resurrection Project provides assistance through community organizing, family programs, housing services, real estate development, asset management and workforce and business development.

The Resurrection Project builds institutional power and develops new leadership by organizing through its member institutions and block club network. TRP prepares leaders to actively participate in the issues affecting their

community. TRP's Family and Community Programs respond to the developmental needs of children, adults and families by building upon their values and culture. Each program works to build skills and create opportunities that promote stronger families. TRP programs include Esperanza Familiar (Family Hope), Supportive Housing Programs and the Centro Familiar Guadalupano (Guadalupano Family Center). The Housing Services division educates families on property ownership issues and facilitates investment by residents and financial institutions into the community.

TRP staff provides home owner education, client counseling and oversees the marketing and sales for its New Homes program. The Resurrection Project also develops and renovates community-owned real estate in a sustainable, affordable manner. TRP undertakes the property acquisition, financial packaging and construction management for its rental housing and commercial developments. TRP also oversees the physical, financial and tenant management of all its properties, ensuring the long term sustainability of the organization's real estate projects. TRP is developing the economic capacity of community residents through an innovative approach to workforce and business development. The Resurrection Construction Cooperative provides entrepreneurial assistance to new and emerging construction related businesses. The Resurrection Loan Fund provides working capital loans up to one-hundred thousand dollars to these businesses. The Resurrection Employment program offers comprehensive support to individuals seeking better employment. Staff provides support on an individual basis, assessing skills and guiding participants through the job-seeking process.

Resurrection Project's exceptional work for our community has been recognized with awards such as the LaSalle Bank's Tom Gobby Community Leadership Award, BP Amoco Foundation's BP Amoco Leader Award for job creation, Bank of America's Community Impact Award and Fannie Mae Foundation's Maxwell Award of Excellence for the Production of Low Income Housing.

Some of TRPs accomplishments include building 112 new homes for low and moderate income families, developing a new daycare and after school care center for 208 children, assisting 32 local contractors to begin, develop and expand their own construction businesses, creating a bilingual second stage housing program for homeless single mothers and generating more than twenty-five million dollars in community investment.

I have witnessed the many positive accomplishments of the Resurrection Project throughout my community. The organization's hard work, commitment and dedication is invaluable to the people I serve. I commend the Resurrection Project for ten years of building affordable new homes and rental housing, helping businesses grow, challenging community residents to become leaders and strengthening families through the development of new child care centers.