

Boston, Massachusetts and was recognized with an Honorary Doctor of Divinity from Shaw University.

As a student Dr. Avery served as pastor of Pilot Baptist Church in Pilot, North Carolina; New Liberty Baptist Church in Louisburg, North Carolina; Macedonia Baptist Church in Wake Forest, North Carolina; and Malabys Crossroads Baptist Church in Knightdale, North Carolina. In 1951 he came to Asheville to pastor Hill Street Baptist Church, and fifty years later he is still the pastor.

Since his arrival in Asheville, Dr. Avery has become an outstanding leader in the religious community. In 1956 he became the first African American to be elected president of the Interracial Ministerial Association of Asheville and Buncombe County. In addition, he has served in a leadership capacity in many organizations in the area as well as state-wide organizations.

Dr. Avery is married to the former Christine Watson who is a retired teacher from the Asheville City Schools System. They have four children, all college graduates: Nilous M. Avery, II pastors Mount Zion Baptist Church in Salisbury, North Carolina. Kryste' N. Moore practices dentistry in Newark, New Jersey. CiCi Morton is the Supervisor for Community in Schools in Asheville, North Carolina. Nian Avery is a licensed embalmer and funeral director at Hart Funeral Service in Asheville, North Carolina. The Averys have eight grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I know that all of my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in saluting Dr. Avery's first fifty years of service to his Lord, his church and our community.

TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT CHEN
SHUI-BIAN OF TAIWAN

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, President Chen Shui-bian of the Republic of China will be completing his first year of service as Taiwan's head of state this May 20, and I would like to congratulate him and comment on a few of Taiwan's achievements.

First, the Republic of China on Taiwan is a major trading partner of the United States and has maintained friendly ties and relations with us for the last ninety years. Second, over recent decades, Taiwan has become a successful model of political reform. Fifty years ago, Taiwan was a closed and authoritarian society with neither freedom of speech nor freedom of assembly. Taiwan did not have elections. Today, Taiwan has become a true democracy. It is the home to more than 90 political parties and virtually every political office in Taiwan is hotly contested through free and fair elections. Third, Taiwan subscribes to the private enterprise system. Taiwan's economy is vibrant and it offers its people one of the highest standards of living in Asia, including universal education and free medical care of people of all ages in Taiwan. Fourth, in terms of its trading relations with us, Taiwan represents our seventh largest export market, thus providing many jobs for our manufacturers. Fifth, in addition to trade relations, more than 30,000 Tai-

wan students are studying at U.S. colleges and universities. Sixth, the U.S. is the number one destination for most of Taiwan's travelers. Seventh, and last but not least, Taiwan and the U.S. share many values in common such as attachment to human rights, freedom and democracy.

Congratulations to Taiwan. I would also like to extend my sincerest welcome to President Chen during his visit to America. He will be stopping in New York on his way to Central America later this month. His stay in New York will be brief, but I hope he enjoys his stay and I wish him success during his official visit in Central America.

REVEREND FELIX B. DUCKWORTH

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American, and I am proud to recognize Reverend Felix B. Duckworth in the Congress for his invaluable contributions and service to our nation.

Reverend Duckworth was born in Little Rock, Arkansas in 1964, and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. He has been married to his lovely wife for 14 years, and he has two beautiful daughters who are 13 and 14 years of age.

His is a life of devotion to the church, and he has spent 20 years in the ministry winning souls for Christ. For ten of those twenty years Reverend Duckworth has been pastor of a church. He served seven of the ten years as Pastor of the Star of Zion Baptist Church in Corpus Christi, Texas. While at the Star of Zion, he was as a member of the City Revitalization/Economic Development Committee. It was here that he committed himself to improving socially and economically distressed areas. Through his work on that board, Reverend Duckworth helped to build and develop the infrastructure for the city of Robstown, Texas, a suburb of Corpus Christi.

After leaving the Star of Zion, he moved to Forrest City, Arkansas, where he assumed the stewardship of Salem M.B. Church. At Salem, he continued his life's work by providing the vision to construct the Salem M.B. Church Family Life Center. Reverend Duckworth used his experience in Corpus Christi to give Forrest City a resource that will provide the community with much-needed intervention and prevention programs. The Salem M.B. Church Family Life Center will serve as a community center that will offer counseling, tutoring and wellness services. The facility will have a computer learning center that is the result of a collaborative effort of state and federal agencies. The Center's primary focus is promoting the importance of getting a good education and addressing the social problems that are ever-present in distressed communities. Reverend Duckworth has written several papers conveying his thoughts on leadership and stewardship. Recently he completed a Leadership Manual addressing church leadership philosophies that will probably be published in late 2001.

In addition to his main responsibilities with the church, Reverend Duckworth somehow has found time to be Moderator of the North Arkansas Baptist District Association, which

oversees 12 churches; President of the St. Francis County (Arkansas) Ministerial Alliance; a member of the Community Relations Board at Forrest City Federal Prison; Chaplain of the Baptist Memorial Health Care Center in St. Francis County; a member of the St. Francis County TEA Coalition Board; and a member of the St. Francis County NAACP.

I am proud to recognize Reverend Duckworth for everything he has done to help the residents of the communities that have been lucky enough to count him as a member, and I want to express my appreciation on behalf of those people, and on behalf of the citizens of this nation.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWARK YMWCA ON 120 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like my colleagues here in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring an institution which is close to my heart and which has inspired countless young men and women over its 120 years of service, the YMWCA of Newark and Vicinity.

As friends and supporters of the Newark Y gather for the 120th anniversary celebration, we reflect on the unique history of the organization as it has worked to serve fellow citizens, young and old, men and women, families and singles, of all races and religions. The Newark Y was the first major Y in the nation to have an African American Executive Director, Mr. Robert Wilson. In the early 1950s, when both the YMCA and the YWCA were conducting a capital campaign to raise funds for a new building, it was decided that the two would merge, creating the YMWCA. The Newark Y has been in the forefront of international programs, with the diligent global work of people like Woody and Connie English putting Newark on the map.

As a school teacher in the 1950s, I encouraged students on the athletic team I was coaching at the then Southside High School, called Malcolm X. Shabazz High School today, to join in the storefront Y at 52 Jones Street. That first group formed the Omega Phi Epsilon High School Club, and within a few years we had over 40 clubs. The TransCity Teen Program was recognized as the most active in the country. Our efforts at the Y resulted in thousands of youngsters being mentored and placed in colleges throughout the northeast and the rest of the nation. Volunteers would drive them to college and help them settle in to their freshman dormitories. Participating in regional, national and international programs in Europe, South America and Africa, many of the Y youngsters of yesterday have become outstanding leaders of today in all fields: education, law, government, medicine, and the corporate world. The YMWCA is committed to developing the spirit, mind and body of the individual; to creating a sense of common social purpose in the community; and to promoting basic, wholesome values for living. The YMWCA demonstrates those commitments through programs and services which offer opportunities to develop youth leadership skills,

strengthen family life, adopt healthy lifestyles, build international understanding, make friends, go to camp, learn to swim, obtain new skills, volunteer in the community, and play basketball and other sports. Despite the ever-changing nature of the world, the need for these kinds of programs and services remains as great as it was when the YMCA was founded in 1881.

As the proud former national President of the YMCAs of the USA, I am pleased to recognize the Y for its many contributions to the quality of life in Newark and surrounding communities and urge support for the Y so that it may continue to serve us for years to come.

DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF PHILIP
CHOVAN, MARIETTA, GEORGIA

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, one would be hard pressed to find a better example of a life spent serving others, than that of Marietta, Georgia Deputy Fire Chief Philip Chovan. After serving in the United States Army, and following his graduation from college, Deputy Chief Chovan began a career protecting his friends and neighbors from fires and other disasters.

During that career, Deputy Chief Chovan has continued to develop as a professional; earning certification after certification, and holding teaching positions where he has passed those skills along to others. In addition to engaging in practically every facet of emergency planning in his own department, Philip Chovan has served on disaster preparedness boards, such as the Georgia Local Emergency Planning Committee, on the Atlanta FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force, and as a presidentially appointed member of the Defense Science Board.

While all of us hope we will never need the services of someone like Philip Chovan, I can say with great confidence he is the kind of person I would want protecting my home and family in an emergency. As he begins a well-earned retirement this year, I join the many individuals who Deputy Chief Chovan has protected from harm, in expressing our thanks and wishing him a safe and prosperous future as he pursues new challenges.

A TRIBUTE TO SMITH DOBSON

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a legendary jazz musician who passed away last month. Smith Dobson died April 20, 2001, in an automobile accident that took the life of a great pianist and teacher. Mr. Dobson was only 54.

Smith Dobson had a career that led him to some of the highest levels of performance. He has shared the stage with musicians such as Art Pepper, Pharoah Sanders, Freddie Hubbard, Mundell Lowe, Stan Getz, among many others, and has spent the last 13 years play-

ing with vibraphonist Bobby Hutcherson. At the beginning of his career, in fact, he was a member of the Airmen of Note, the official White House jazz band. His teaching career has been equally praised, having held positions in jazz history at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and jazz piano and harmony at San Jose State University. Mr. Dobson was also a dedicated community advocate for musical education and outreach. He sat on the boards of the San Jose Jazz Society, the Stanford Jazz Alliance and the Kuumbwa Jazz Center in Santa Cruz.

Indeed, Mr. Speaker, his death has shocked our local community as well as the jazz community at large. At his memorial service, over 1,000 people came to pay their respects, filling the chapel two hours before the service even began. His life was celebrated in word and in song, as his friends and colleagues shared tales and memories. Smith Dobson has been described as the "moral center of the community", a "world-class" player, and the "first-call guy". In fact, last year the internationally known Monterey Jazz Festival recognized his talent and dedication to his craft with a lifetime achievement award. He and his family were also the recipients of the 2001 Gail Rich Award for excellence in the arts. Mr. Dobson's loss is indeed a loss for us all.

Smith Dobson was a consummate musician and member of his community, and I am sure that his legacy will continue through the talents of his two children and wife, all of whom are accomplished musicians as well. He will be greatly missed by his wife, Gail of Santa Cruz; son, Smith Jr. of San Francisco; and daughter, Sasha, of New York; as well as thousands of musicians, friends, colleagues and fans.

SUPPORT H.R. 10

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 10, the Comprehensive Retirement Security and Pension Reform Act. This comprehensive legislation is an excellent first step toward rectifying the severe retirement savings shortfall in this country.

Clearly we need to do more to prepare for our futures. IRA's, 401(k)s, and other tax-favored retirement plans are one way to do so. At present, half of our nation's workforce, practically 75 million Americans, lack access to a 401(k)-type plan or any kind of pension. IRA contribution limits have been frozen at the \$2,000 limit since 1981. I applaud Congressmen PORTMAN and CARDIN for creating this package that will allow Americans to set more aside in IRA or 401(k)-type plans, modernize pension laws, and provide regulatory relief to encourage more small businesses to offer retirement plans.

By allowing individuals to increase their contribution limit for both traditional and Roth IRA's to \$5,000 over the next three years, gives them the potential for a sound economic future. This legislation would allow so many working Americans the opportunity to better themselves, their families and their future. Also by including catch-up provisions granting individuals who are over 50 to increase their

contribution for IRA's to \$5,000 next year, provides these individuals to chance for a better retirement.

In today's society, we are living longer and healthier lives. Current statistics indicate that one-fifth of today's 35-year-olds who reach retirement can expect to live into their 90's. This evidence clearly demonstrates that Americans will outlive their retirement savings. Therefore, it is crucial that Congress can provide Americans, who have worked hard to support themselves and their families, every opportunity possible to achieve a financially secure retirement.

I would urge my colleagues to support this landmark legislation that would expand access to private pensions and increase flexibility for families to save for their retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 11TH ANNUAL PANASONIC KID WITNESS NEWS PROGRAM AND THE NEW VISION AWARD WINNERS

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a very talented group of students at Theodore Roosevelt School in Weehawken, New Jersey. On May 15th, 11th annual Panasonic Kid Witness News program will present its New Vision Awards at the Newark Museum in Newark, New Jersey.

Theodore Roosevelt School's K-8 is this year's New Vision Award winner for producing the best "Local Hero" video. Videos in the Local Hero category profile an individual who represents accomplishments, heroism or spirit, and demands our attention and adulation. The video created by the Weehawken school KWN team used a series of on-camera narrators, interviews, still photographs, and home video footage to create a moving portrait of one of their classmates, 12-year-old Lenny Rodriguez, a cancer survivor who made the hard decision to have his leg amputated. In choosing the Theodore Roosevelt School, the judges selected "Our Little Giant Dares to Dream," an inspirational story about one person's extraordinary triumph over adversity. I commend Mr. Jon Hammer, 7th grade teacher and KWN coordinator, and 6th grade teacher Eileen Hochman for their generous time and support given to the Weehawken KWN team to produce such an outstanding and special video.

I am very familiar with Panasonic's Kid Witness News program. It is a hands-on, video education program, in more than 200 primarily inner-city schools in 120 U.S. cities. Using Panasonic-supplied equipment to create video projects, young people are encouraged to develop their creative, communication, and technical skills through video production. Annual awards are presented to student teams in various categories, including Best Video, Documentary, Local Hero, Multiculturalism, and News at a special program held in New Jersey each spring.

Theodore Roosevelt School was the very first participating school in Panasonic's KWN student news program. Mr. Anthony LaBruno, the school's principal, clearly understands the students' pride in accomplishing from these