

Norwich University, she champions the importance of education. She has facilitated countless workshops on Black History to empower members of the Black community with knowledge of their history and culture as well as to inform members of other ethnic communities. Her main goal was to bring people together through learning.

Many young people and adults throughout the South Bronx consider Nellie a second mother. She has cared for hundreds of children in her home and coordinated numerous events with young people in the community. The fashion shows she organized with Mott Haven HeadStart children created wonderful memories for many. While Nellie may have a special place in her heart for children, she is also very concerned with general community development and giving everyone, children and adults alike, a sense of pride in their neighborhood. She has spearheaded the reparation of abandoned buildings and vacant lots and the repaving of roads and sidewalks. Knowing that she and her neighbors deserved quality public transportation service, she called for and received improvement of the local bus line. Nellie has also helped empower fellow Bronx residents by participating in a number of voter registration drives, encouraging her neighbors to make their voices heard.

Mr. Speaker, at 73 years of age, Nellie continues to work hard and is currently the Chairperson of the Housing Committee of Planning Board 1, Assistant Chairperson of the Patterson Volunteer Committee, a lifetime member of the National Council of Negro Women, and a member of the New York NAACP, as well as many other prestigious organizations.

This exceptional human being is the mother of three, grandmother of six, great-grandmother of seven, and mother-figure of hundreds. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mrs. Nellie McKay on her 73d birthday and to thank her for sharing so much of her heart, time and energy.

HONORING DR. JOHN E. SIRMALIS

**HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 26, 2002*

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. John E. Sirmalis. Dr. Sirmalis recently retired from the position of Technical Director of the Naval Undersea Warfare Center (NUWC) after 45 years of outstanding service. He earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1956, and a Master of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1958, both from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 1975, he received a Doctorate Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Rhode Island. He has a widely heralded reputation as a true leader and an exceptional visionary for submarine and undersea warfare systems. He has also been considered the nation's foremost authority on undersea weapons. As the "hands-on" leader of the Naval Undersea Warfare Center, Dr. Sirmalis stressed the importance of leading the Navy into the future through innovation, transformation and visionary concepts. Under his leadership and guidance, an incredible and significant series of accomplishments were

produced in many fields, including Sonar Technology, Combat Control Systems, Periscopes, and Launchers.

As a recognized expert in management and technology, Dr. Sirmalis has served as a member of a number of high-level Navy panels and served as the Navy's undersea weapons expert for cooperative international data exchange programs. He played a vital role in the fielding and improving of the Mark 48 and the Mark 48 Advanced Capability (ADCAF) torpedoes and other undersea vehicles. Dr. Sirmalis also implemented productivity enhancements, instituted an aggressive energy conservation program, and prioritized overhead functions to selectively reduce the cost of service. As a direct result of his initiatives, the Naval Undersea Warfare Center reduced overhead and costs while improving efficiency.

Throughout his distinguished career Dr. Sirmalis has received numerous awards. In 1997, Dr. Sirmalis received the Navy Distinguished Civilian Service Award, the highest award that can be received by a member of the Federal Government's Senior Executive Service. He has also been the recipient of the Meritorious Executive Presidential Rank Award, both in 1984 and 1994. He received the 1995 VADM Charles B. Martell Award presented for his outstanding record achievement and reputation as the world's foremost authority on undersea weaponry. Most recently he was selected to receive the 2000 Distinguished Civilian Award from the Naval Submarine League.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Sirmalis has been a long serving and dedicated public servant and a true patriot. I am proud to recognize his long and distinguished career and accomplishments as Technical Director of the Naval Undersea Warfare Center. true naval tradition, I wish Dr. John E. Sirmalis "Fair Winds and Following Seas" as he enters into retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMAICA'S  
40TH YEAR OF INDEPENDENCE

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 26, 2002*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound pleasure that I speak today in honor of the 164th year of Emancipation and the 40th anniversary marking Jamaica's independence from Great Britain. On August 6, 1962, Jamaica won its political independence from the colonial rule of Great Britain. This year, Ambassador Seymour Mullings will be leading the Jamaican and Jamaican-American communities in the United States in their yearly tradition of celebrating freedom from colonialism and slavery.

To give a brief history, Jamaica's first inhabitants were the South American Arawak Indians. In 1494, Columbus arrived on the island and claimed the land for Spain. Suffering a similar fate of the nearby Caribbean islands, the Arawak Indians were enslaved or died from diseases carried over by the Spanish settlers during their 160 year reign.

In 1655, the island was captured by the British and immediately started the large-scale importation of Africans for slave labor in the sugar plantations. The inhumane nature of slavery made slave revolts a common phe-

nomenon in Jamaica. Both freed and escaped slaves (Maroons) continually fought their British captors for their right to live free. The most famous of these rebellions happened in 1831 by Reverend Sam Sharpe. Known as the "Christmas Rebellion", this insurrection lasted for four months and is credited for bringing about the end of slavery. Today, Sam Sharpe is recognized as a national hero in Jamaica.

It was not until after the American Colonies declared themselves independent from England in 1776 that the abolition movement began to flourish throughout Jamaica. March 1, 1808 marked the year when slave trade between Africa and Jamaica was abolished by the British Parliament.

In 1834, the Emancipation Act officially ended slavery; however, the slaves did not gain complete freedom until four years later on August 1, 1838. Many ex-slaves settled down as small farmers in the Blue Mountains, far away from the plantations they used to cultivate. Those who stayed on the plantations now received compensation for their labor. Struggles over land culminated in the Morant Bay rebellion, leading to the deaths of two Jamaican national heroes: George William Gordon and Paul Bogle, and forcing Great Britain to proclaim Jamaica as a crown colony in 1865.

Inspired by the political ideas of Marcus Garvey, a national movement for independence began in the late 1930s. Political parties started forming and years later in 1944, Jamaica was proud to hold its first democratic elections. Over a decade later on August 6, 1962, full political independence was granted, allowing Jamaica, a new member to the British Commonwealth, to draft its own constitution and create a bicameral Parliament with elected representatives and a Prime Minister.

Jamaican-born Marcus Garvey was ultimately recognized as one of America's greatest Black leaders. He challenged the myths of racial inferiority and inspired hundreds of thousands of Black American supporters with hope for a better future. It is my hope that this Congress will support my bill, H.Res. 50, to exonerate this internationally renowned leader in the struggle for human rights. I ask my colleagues to join me today in clearing Marcus Garvey's name in honor of Jamaica's Emancipation from slavery and Independence from colonialism.

With 4,411 square miles of beautiful beaches, mountains and farms, Jamaica overcame centuries of economic and social struggles to become internationally acclaimed in all aspects of human culture, including tourism, music, and sports. Millions of tourists from all around the world vacation in Jamaica and experience for themselves the beauty that the inhabitants of this great nation get to see year round.

Although it is a small island nation of only two million people, Jamaica has had a remarkable impact upon the world of music. With its reggae beat played throughout the world, Jamaica has produced the musical stylings of Harry Belafonte, Jimmy Cliff, Peter Tosh and Bob Marley. The country is involved in all sports competitions, including cricket, soccer, basketball, boxing, and even more remote sports like baseball, hockey, and bobsledding. Great Jamaican athletes such as Heavyweight Champion Lennox Lewis and Patrick Ewing of the New York Knicks have contributed extensively to the American sports culture.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to speak in recognition of what has been accomplished by the people of Jamaica as we celebrate its independence. Jamaica has elevated itself from the perils of slavery and oppression to a country of great power and prestige. As we move forward, I am confident that our friendship with Jamaica will continue well into the future.

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ALGERIA

**HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 26, 2002*

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, our nation celebrated our independence, freedom and democracy on the Fourth of July. Another independence day was commemorated one day later on July 5th—that of our friend and ally, Algeria, which celebrated 40 years of independence this year.

President Bush sent his congratulations to President Bouteflika to mark the occasion, expressing his solidarity with the Algerian people. The President reiterated U.S. support for Algeria's efforts in the war on terror and progress in political and economic reforms for the Algerian people.

Algeria has been an increasingly staunch ally of the U.S. over the years, and has been a particularly helpful friend and ally in our war on terrorism. Algeria was one of the first nations to offer its condolences and assistance in the immediate aftermath of the attacks. In addition, Algeria has cooperated fully with our law enforcement and intelligence agencies as a partner in the global coalition against terrorism. Ambassador Francis X. Taylor, head of the State Department's Counterterrorism Office, praised Algeria's cooperation calling that nation "one of the most tenacious and faithful partners of the United States" which has "cooperated with us in every domain."

As important as Algeria is to us today, it will be increasingly important in the future as we explore liquefied natural gas reserves there to meet our nation's growing energy needs. Algeria has some of the largest natural gas reserves in the world, exporting over four million barrel per day, soon to be five million—the largest exporter in Africa. Algeria could be a prime market for our agricultural products. It is a home to U.S. investment and will be an increasingly important economic partner in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to add my congratulations to the people of Algeria on the occasion of their forty years of independence and recognize the important contribution that nation is making in the international war on terror, as well as the progress being made towards real and lasting democracy.

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IN HONOR OF JOHN JACOBS

**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 26, 2002*

Mr. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, It is with great personal sadness that I rise to pay tribute to my friend John Jacobs, a great friend to San

Francisco's business and conservation communities. John worked passionately to keep San Francisco's economy vital and its environment sound. The former head of the San Francisco Planning and Urban Research Association (SPUR) and the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, he passed away on July 15th at 76 years of age.

A native of Philadelphia, John served as a paratrooper in the 101st Airborne Division during the Battle of the Bulge during World War II. Following the war, he worked for NATO in England and France. He attended New Mexico State University on the GI Bill and received his BS in Business. His college roommate, John Hirten, urged him to come to San Francisco to lead SPUR, which he did for the next twenty years.

John was one of the most influential figures in San Francisco's planning and economic development since the 1960's. Under his leadership, SPUR played a key role in the creation of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area by developing a network of more than 65 conservation and civic-minded organizations. He served as deputy director of SPUR from 1960 to 1968 and as executive director from 1968 to 1981.

He then served as executive director of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce from 1981 to 1988, when he became president of the organization for a year. He played a leading role in resolving the downtown business community's battles with City Hall and neighborhood groups and helped draft guidelines for the treatment of HIV-positive employees.

John was also an avid sailor and expert yachtsman and named champion in several sailboat racing classes. His love for the San Francisco Bay Area was demonstrated by his service on the boards of the Fine Arts Museum, KQED, Point Reyes Bird Observatory, and the San Francisco State University Foundation.

John's service to San Francisco and the Bay Area was a gift to us all. His insistence that the business and conservation communities communicate with and support each other made San Francisco a model for other cities. He was a hero, always vigilant, always willing and able to do battle. To John's lovely wife Shirley, I extend my deepest sympathy and my gratitude to her for sharing her magnificent husband with us.

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IN HONOR OF RICK SANCHEZ

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 26, 2002*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and acknowledge the many accomplishments of Rick Sanchez, whose voice will now be heard on Spanish-language radio in New York and Miami. In a historic arrangement, Mr. Sanchez will be the first host of two shows, in two media markets and in two languages. The Federation of Cuban Musicians in Exile will honor Rick Sanchez at Las Palmas Restaurant on Sunday, July 28th in West New York, New Jersey.

With over 20 years of experience covering major national and international stories, Mr. Sanchez has made a significant and long-lasting contribution in broadcasting. Most notably,

he covered the Contra War in Nicaragua, the uprisings in Haiti, and was one of the first reporters to broadcast live from the scene of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

An accomplished interviewer, he has received many accolades for his work, including the Florida Broadcaster of the Year Award and a special commendation from the White House. He is also a philanthropist, having led the relief efforts to assist victims of Hurricane Andrew in South Miami Dade County.

Rick Sanchez and his parents were exiled from his birthplace, Havana, Cuba, when he was two years old. While attending Moorhead State University on a football scholarship, he was selected from thousands of applicants for a journalism scholarship at the University of Minnesota, awarded by CBS station WCCO-TV in Minneapolis. Following college, he was hired as a reporter at WSVN in South Florida and, at 22, he became the youngest anchor in the market when he became the station's weekend anchor.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Rick Sanchez for his ground breaking achievements in broadcasting and for paving the way for the Hispanic community.

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IN MEMORY OF ARIEL MELCHIOR, SR., CO-FOUNDER OF THE DAILY NEWS OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

**HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN**

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 26, 2002*

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Ariel Melchior Sr., co-founder of the Daily News of the Virgin Islands, died Tuesday night, July 23, 2002 at the Roy L. Schneider Hospital on St. Thomas in my district, the U.S. Virgin Islands. Members of his family were at his bedside at the time of his death. He was 93. Together with the late J. Antonio Jarvis, Melchior started the newspaper on August 1, 1930 and headed the publication for almost 50 years before it was purchased by Gannett Co. Inc. in 1978.

Melchior, Sr. is survived by two sons, Earl and Ariel, Jr.; six daughters, Marjorie Preston, Valerie Wade, Rita Watley, Norma Gomez, Laurel Melchior, and Juel Love; stepchildren George Dudley, Jr. and Rita Grant. A sister, Zelina Petersen, also survives together with many grand and great-grandchildren.

A giant among his fellow men, even though very few are aware of his intense love for his community or of his courage to stand by his decisions, Ariel Melchior, Sr., was a quiet but forceful champion of human rights. Chief among his contributions to his society is the establishment of the Daily News, a newspaper which has become a substantial force in the territory. Appearing on the newsstand on August 1, 1930, the paper was a joint effort of Mr. Melchior and the late Jose Antonio Jarvis, a teacher. Throughout the years, Melchior served on the paper in several positions, including business manager, a post he held for about 10 years.

When Jarvis sold his interest to his partner, Melchior then assumed full ownership and served as editor. Under his guidance, the paper observed almost half a century, never missing one day's publication. It was also