

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.

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 Bouteflicka 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.

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.

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.

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

under his leadership that the paper was the recipient of several awards and citations. A partial listing of these tributes include certificates of appreciation from the Junior Chamber of Commerce, St. Thomas (1961), Boy Scouts of America (1961), The National Safe Boating Week Committee (1966), a Public Service award from the United States Department of Labor (1970), and an anniversary award from the Charlotte Amalie High School (1971).

On occasions of various anniversaries of the paper, letters of commendation have been received from prominent National, International, and Local figures and organizations. Some of these are Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States (1959); John D. Merwin (former), Governor, U.S. Virgin Islands (1961); Hubert H. Humphrey, Vice President of the United States (1965); Fred Seaton, U.S. Secretary of Interior (1959); Lord Mayor of Dublin (1954); Erik Eriksen, Danish Information Services (1967); William H. Hastie, Judge United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit (1954); Syril E. King, Governor, U.S. Virgin Islands (1975); Women's League, St. Thomas (1966); Ralph M. Paiwdonsky, Governor, U.S. Virgin Islands (1975); The Very Reverend Edward J. Harper, Bishop, Roman Catholic Diocese, St. Thomas, V.I. (1975).

These expressions attest to the successful role the newspaper has played in fulfilling its obligation to protect the democratic process and to provide for good, clean government. To achieve these goals, Mr. Melchior even took his cause to the courts.

A classic example in which he challenged violations of the Constitution was the case of *Melchior v. St. Thomas Park Authority*, et al., 1966. In that case, Mr. Melchior contested the action of the local Park Authority for prohibiting or restricting the use of any part of Magen's Bay on St. Thomas to the public because the beach was conveyed from Arthur S. Fairchild for the use of the people of the Virgin Islands in perpetuity. The court agreed and granted a permanent injunction against the Park Authority and the Government of the Virgin Islands.

In another instance via the *Daily News*, Mr. Melchior's charge of irregularity in Government was brought to the public's attention during congressional hearings on the Virgin Islands Elective Bill on June 20, 1968. Remarks made at this hearing by representative John P. Saylor indicated that there was a violation of the Hatch Act by Government employees. The *Daily News* further charged that the persons involved were duly notified and warned. In the conclusion of his remarks, Mr. Saylor gave credit to the paper for its commitment to preserving good government.

Always a champion in civic matters, in 1939 Mr. Melchior intervened when the name of Alvaro de Lugo, the first native born U.S. Postmaster was omitted from the bronze plaque which was being installed in the U.S. Post Office in Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas. He brought the omission to the attention of the U.S. Fourth Assistant Postmaster General, Smith W. Purden. As a result, the name of the Postmaster and the Governor, Lawrence Cramer, were included.

Besides the power of the press, it was also through personal involvement as a concerned citizen or through his civic affiliations that Mr. Melchior has continued to contribute his services and expertise to the community. After the sale of the *Daily News* in 1978 to the Gannett

Publishing Company, he concentrated on several other goals. He established the Ariel Melchior, Sr. Foundation, an agency which among other activities rented scholarships to students or other persons with interests in journalism.

In addition, the foundation, along with the St. Thomas Historic Trust, in 1980, erected a bust of the late Antonio Jarvis, an outstanding Virgin Islander. The life-sized bronze statue is based on a six-foot marble pedestal. Areas depicting Mr. Jarvis's specialties are attached on six "books" on which his arm rests. The memorial is housed in the educator's park in St. Thomas.

Another of his personal accomplishments is the publication of "Thoughts Along the Way" (1980). A compilation of selected *Daily News* Editorials, the book gives an in-depth look into life in the Virgin Islands. A second publication, "Commentaries—from the Archives," is a compilation of several letters of special significance, a photo file and copies of awards and citations to him and the *Daily News*. Earlier publications are a "Souvenir of the American Virgin Islands" (1953) and "Virgin Islands Magazine" (1936–1963). This periodical was awarded a scroll of honorable mention in 1952 from the Professional League of Virgin Islanders in New York for its "excellent example of modern magazine make-up and journalistic content."

Many of the organizations with which he has been affiliated have, through the years acknowledged his contributions. A member of the Inter-American Press Association (In 1969 he was named vice chairman by the president of the association, James S. Coplen). In recognition of this position, he was commended by prominent figures in the newspaper publishing industry. In 1973, he was among seventeen residents honored by the V.I. Academy of Arts and Letters for the contributions to the cultural heritage of the territory. In addition, Mr. Melchior received a plaque as evidence of his membership in the association. He was also awarded a plaque in 1979 for his outstanding service to the Rotary Club of St. Thomas. In 1979 he was awarded a service award in recognition of outstanding service as a senior member of the Governing Board of the Virgin Islands Port Authority. In that same year he received a certificate of appreciation for his personal interest in making the intensive care unit at the Knud-Hansen Memorial Hospital a reality. Other agencies recognizing his contributions include Virgin Islands National Guard, Boy Scouts of America, Junior Chamber of Commerce, and executive board of the Rotary Club of St. Thomas. A few other outstanding certificates include the Navy League's certification of Life Membership, the United States Congressional Advisory Board's Certificate in Grateful Recognition of his Outstanding Services and the 1982 Trustees Distinguished Achievement Award from the College of the Virgin Islands, now the University of the Virgin Islands. He is currently a member of the board of Overseers of the University and was its keynote speaker at the 1982 graduation ceremonies. The Virgin Islands Legislature has publicly recognized the contributions of Mr. Melchior on two separate occasions. In 1950, the fifteenth Legislative Assembly approved a resolution on the event of his twentieth year as a newspaper publisher, and in 1975 the eleventh Legislature approved a resolution in honor of his 45th year as a publisher.

It was Francis Xavier Cervantes, Regional housing director, who in 1975 best summarized Mr. Melchior's impact on his community with this quote, "The past of the Virgin Islands is wrapped around him like a cloak, and the future will regard him as the elder statesman that he is."

Formerly married to the late Violet Cruz, he was the father of their seven children: Earle, Marjorie Melchior Preston, Valerie Melchior Wade, Ariel Jr., Rita Melchior Watley, Norma and Laurel.

He and his second wife, Gertrude Lockhart Dudley Melchior, are world travelers who have visited many countries in Europe, Asia, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean. An avid sportsman, Mr. Melchior enjoys deep sea fishing and sailing.

Mr. Speaker, the description of Ariel Melchior, Sr.'s accomplishments which I recite here today, is taken from a book entitled "Profiles of Outstanding Virgin Islanders", written by Ruth Moolenaar of St. Thomas.

A TRIBUTE TO LANGSTON HUGHES

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, this year is the 100th anniversary of the birth of Langston Hughes (February 1, 1902). Schools, universities, libraries, and organizations around the country are celebrating his life. I want to take the time to recognize an outstanding individual who has contributed greatly to this country.

Hughes was born in Joplin, Missouri to abolitionist parents and attended high school in Cleveland, Ohio where he first began writing poetry. At his father's encouragement, Hughes attended Columbia University to studying engineering for a "practical" job. However, Hughes left the field in order to pursue his love for words. Hughes received a scholarship to Lincoln University, in Pennsylvania, where he eventually received his B.A. degree in 1929. His first published poem was "The Negro Speaks of Rivers" and became one of his most famous works.

Hailed as a genius, Hughes gave the gift of words to a country in turmoil. His writing began to flourish during the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920's and 30's, a time in which racism, war, the Depression, and other social ills plagued this nation. Hughes traveled throughout Europe, West and Central Africa during the early 1920's and returned to Harlem in 1924.

In the following year he moved from Harlem to Washington, DC. While in our nation's capital, he was heavily influenced by the blues and jazz scene. His work captured the dynamic of black music on paper, inspiring academia to study and recognize the uniqueness of black music as being an authentic American art form.

Some of Hughes' most famous works are *Not Without Laughter* (1930), *The Big Sea* (1940), and *I Wonder As I Wander* (1956), his autobiographies. His poetry includes *Tambourines to Glory* (1958), *The Weary Blues* (1926), *The Negro Mother* and other Dramatic Recitations (1931), *The Dream Keeper* (1932), *Shakespeare In Harlem* (1942), and *The Best of Simple* (1961).