

and praise of community leaders, such as Houston Mayors Lee Brown and Bob Lanier, former Chiefs of Police and countless community organizations. Captain Bullock is a community minded captain who has played an integral role in the revitalization of the Fondren area of southwest Houston. His suggestions and continuous support for the community's fundraising events have substantially contributed to the growth of the Fondren economy. Additionally, Captain Bullock's successful efforts to establish the Fondren Division of the HPD in 1998 exemplifies his concern for the safety of the community, as well as his drive and determination to improve the quality of life in the Houston area.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Captain Bullock on his 43 years of exceptional service to the Houston Police Department and applaud his leadership in the development and enhancement of the Fondren community.

HONORING COMMUNITY VETERANS

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2002

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and give thanks to Latino veterans across the nation and in New York's 12th District—those brave soldiers who served in our Armed Forces during times of turmoil and crisis in our nation's history.

Today, the National Federation of Puerto Rican Pioneers, Inc., also known as Los Pioneros, of Williamsburg, Brooklyn celebrates another anniversary to honor the many Puerto Ricans who so bravely served in our Armed Services.

Given the war against terrorism our great nation is now waging both here and overseas, I believe we must take time to honor and give thanks to a few of our nation's Latino veterans from the 12th District. Many of these men were young men, unaware of how war would change them when they enlisted in the Armed Forces during World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. They joined the service with hopes of strengthening our nation's security, fighting for the ideals of democracy and freedom, and ensuring a more peaceful world. Although many returned home with lasting wounds, their spirit was never broken. These Puerto Rican veterans answered the call to duty. That is why I have been a strong advocate for them during my service in the United States Congress. These soldiers did not disappoint this nation when we needed their service, and it is our solemn obligation to guarantee that they are remembered and cared for in their time of need.

Therefore, it is with much appreciation that I honor my Puerto Ricans brothers in spirit on their special day: Luis A. Fantauzzi, 1941–49; Victor Garcia, 1952–58; Jesus Rivera, Sr., 1954–58; Jesus Rivera, Jr., 1954–58; Victor L. Robles, 1954–58; Jose R. Torres, 1954–56; Herbert Zayas, 1954–56; Israel Perez, 1954–56; Nelson Cora, 1954–56; Pedro Colon, Jr., 1960–64; Edward Elba, 1960–64; Robert Guile, 1960–62; Roberto Maldonado, 1966–68; Guillermo Martinez, 1966–68; Gilberto Mercado, 1966–68; Felix Lopez, 1966–69; Hector L. Soto, 1975–78; Ismael Torres, Jr., 1975–78; Nelson Torres, 1975–78; Edison P.

Rivera, 1975–78; Eugenio Maldonado, 1975–78; Gilbert Figueroa, 1979–82; Felix W. Ortiz, 1984–86; and Walter Figueroa, 1985–90.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND DR. SHELLIE SAMPSON JR.

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2002

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Reverend Dr. Shellie Sampson, Jr., a remarkable spiritual counselor and community leader, on his 20th anniversary as Pastor of the Thessalonia Baptist Church in the Bronx.

Reverend Sampson was born and raised in Newark, New Jersey, but his extensive education has taken him all over the Northeast. He received a Bachelor of Arts from Rutgers University and went on to receive his Masters of Divinity and Doctorate of Ministry from Drew University. Reverend Sampson studied at the prestigious Princeton Theological Seminary and New York University. As if he had not achieved enough academically already, Reverend Sampson also received an Honorary Doctorate of Law from Virginia University and is currently a Doctoral Candidate at Temple University.

Mr. Speaker, since his arrival to New York's religious community 20 years ago, Reverend Sampson has made many unforgettable changes. He played a major role in the construction of the Thessalonia Cultural Community Center which has helped to unite the community and provide recreation and a number of services. Also, as a result of his efforts, the Thessalonia Elementary Academy and the Thessalonia Institute of Education were established to provide people of faith with exceptional educational opportunities.

The man I am honoring today has been an example of leadership for his congregation and many community members. The community programs that he has spearheaded dealing with education, homelessness, senior citizens, and youth are too numerous to mention. As a result of all that he does and has done, Reverend Sampson has been the recipient of a number of awards and has been placed in many leadership positions throughout his 30 years in ministry. Reverend Sampson has served as a religious guide, friend, confidant, and teacher. He has maintained not only the spiritual strength of his church, but has made sure that its physical foundation remained sound as well with renovations. Along with his intensive studies, Reverend Sampson is somehow still able to successfully lead and uplift his congregation and be a loving husband and father to his eight children. He is truly a remarkable individual.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Reverend Dr. Shellie Sampson, Jr.'s 20 years of exceptional service to the Thessalonia Baptist Church congregation and to the entire Bronx community.

RECOGNIZING WEST VIRGINIA SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION'S SMALL BUSINESS EXPORTER OF THE YEAR, EWELL A. FERGUSON

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2002

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ewell A. Ferguson, owner of GTR LABS, Incorporated, in the Second Congressional District of West Virginia. Mr. Ferguson has achieved the title of Small Business Exporter of the Year. The West Virginia District of the United States Small Business Administration, a leader in the promotion and growth of our state, gives this award annually.

Mr. Ferguson incorporated GTR LABS in 1994 in Gassaway, West Virginia with an idea to produce a new and innovative high frequency x-ray generator. His products are exported to over 15 countries worldwide. Mr. Ferguson embodies the values that created the American success story: self-reliance, hard work, perseverance, and optimism. I commend him for his contributions to the West Virginia economy.

Successful small businesses not only serve as the backbone of the economy, they anchor communities and promote civic pride. I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating Mr. Ewell's tremendous achievement as the West Virginia Small Business Administration's Small Business Exporter of the Year.

IN HONOR OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NAACP BAYONNE BRANCH

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2002

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Bayonne branch of the NAACP on its 75th Anniversary. The "Freedom Fund Dinner" took place on Saturday, May 17, 2002, at the Hi-Hat Caterers. In addition to celebrating this momentous anniversary, the Bayonne NAACP honored eight exemplary citizens, including: Mario Joseph Depeine, Howard Fitch, Jane R. Roberts, Nancy Barnes, Willie J. Graham, Kathleen R. McQuilla, Richard Burroughs, and John R. McGee. Nationally renowned Emmy Award-winner Gil Noble was the featured speaker.

Founded in 1927 by Mr. Ferdinand Smith, the NAACP Bayonne branch has helped gain political, educational, and economic status for minority groups, and continues to actively promote social justice and a better life for all Americans.

Over the past 75 years, the Bayonne branch has proved to be an integral part of the Civil Rights Movement by successfully facilitating the integration of several institutions and organizations throughout New Jersey. This dynamic Association participated in the March on Washington in 1963, organized numerous desegregation demonstrations, and helped introduce multi-ethnic textbooks in schools. It continues to serve as a resource that preserves the legacy of the Civil Rights Movement and

educates younger generations on the profound influences of this time in history.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the NAACP for 75 years of making real differences in the lives of our people. I wish them well in the future as we continue to make Bayonne a community that fosters social justice and equality for all.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FATHER JOHN S. TRIMBUR

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2002

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, as Representative to the citizens of the 17th Congressional District of Ohio, it brings me great pleasure to pay tribute to Father John S. Trimbur, as he is honored on this date, May 20, 2002.

Born in Warren, Ohio on January 15, 1947, Father John Trimbur graduated from Niles McKinley High School in 1964. He entered the seminary after graduation, receiving degrees from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh and St. Thomas Seminary in Denver, Colorado. Father Trimbur was ordained for the Archdiocese of Denver on May 25, 1974. He then served as an Associate Pastor of Notre Dame Parish in Denver, St. Thomas Moore in Englewood and the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, also in Denver.

Father Trimbur transferred to the Youngstown Diocese in 1978, and served as Associate pastor at Warren St. James, Canton St. Joan of Arc, Austintown St. Joseph and Immaculate Heart of Mary Parishes. From 1987 through 1988, Father Trimbur served as Administrator of St. Joseph's Mantua. He was then appointed as Pastor of St. John's Baptist in Campbell in 1989, where he resides at the current time. Father Trimbur also served as Pastor of St. Stephen of Hungary Parish from 1991 through 1995, and St. Lucy in Campbell from 1995 to 1996.

Father John Trimbur served on the diocesan "Walking Together" committee, and currently serves on the diocesan Board of Education, and recently served on the committee to rewrite the Diocesan curriculum for catechesis. He is a member of Poland Council #4471, where he serves Chaplain, and is also a member and Faithful Friar of Msgr. John Lettau Assembly.

In the City of Campbell Father Trimbur served on the advisory board for Campbell Commons Partnership Program and is President of Ecumenical Council, the Diocese Cemetery Board, the St. John's Cemetery Board, as well as a member of ACTION.

I join with the citizens of this district in honoring Father John Trimbur. He is to be commended for his dedication and commitment to the diocese, the City of Campbell and to the community as a whole. Today, and everyday, we are so very thankful for Father John Trimbur's presence in our lives. I wish him well in his future endeavors, and may God bless him in the years to come.

COMMENDING THE NORTH AMERICAN BOARD OF RABBIS AND THE GERMAN EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2002

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, April 6th, ten high school students from Berlin, Germany, arrived at New York's Kennedy Airport to spend two weeks with their Jewish counterparts and families in a pilot program designed to foster a better understanding between young Germans and the Jewish community in the United States.

Organized by the North American Board of Rabbis and the Padogischer Austauschdienst (PAD), the German Educational Ministry in Bonn, the exchange was conceived as a means to bridge the gulf that sometimes exists between the United States Jewish community and Germany. Some 57 years have passed since the end of World War II, and Germany has become a dynamic and tolerant society that now contains the third largest Jewish population on continental Europe. It has also been a stalwart friend of Israel and one of America's closest allies.

The students were warmly received by their host families, and new friendships were immediately established. During their time in New York City, they had occasion to visit synagogues, learn about Jewish traditions, attend local schools, and even engage in the great American pastime of enjoying hot dogs while watching the Mets at Shea Stadium. Most important, was what the students learned from each other as they were embraced by all with whom they came into contact. The German students experienced the dynamism of the United States Jewish community and came away impressed by both its spirit and commitment to universal justice.

In late August the ten American students who served as hosts will go to Berlin, where they no doubt will be as warmly received and will have the opportunity to experience the German community.

Particular praise for this effort should be extended to Rabbi Jay Rosenbaum with the North American Boards of Rabbis, Dr. Stefan Schleuter, who is Deputy Consul General for Germany in New York, and Allienze AG from Munich, Germany, the corporation that fully funded the pilot program.

In closing Mr. Speaker, I want to commend all of the parties involved for making this program a huge success. To our young people from Berlin and New York, I hope and trust that this experience had expanded your horizons and that the exposure will prove enlightening as you soon begin your adult life venture.

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY, WORK, AND FAMILY PROMOTION ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say that I will be voting for H.R. 4737, the ma-

jority's plan for reauthorizing the welfare program, but doing so with some reluctance. We have made significant progress in reducing the welfare rolls since Congress authorized Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, TANF, in 1996, and we must build on those successes as we reauthorize this program. However, we must not ignore the important lessons learned since 1996.

H.R. 4737 is founded on the appropriate philosophy of time-limited assistance and mandated annually increasing levels of work participation by welfare recipients. I strongly support this approach to providing assistance—we don't just offer handouts, we promote self-sufficiency through work, and we offer assistance for a defined amount of time. I believe this combination of progressing milestones, assistance with an end in sight, and work requirements is a good formula for success in reducing poverty. The North Dakota Department of Human Services shares this sentiment, stating their support for "keeping work the primary focus of TANF reauthorization."

However, Mr. Speaker, I want my colleagues in Congress and my constituents to know that I believe the majority plan falls short in a couple of key areas and that I plan to work to correct these shortcomings as the legislation moves forward. Specifically, I want to see improvements in the areas of job training and child care. We must be realistic in setting goals for reducing poverty, and this can best be done by providing beneficiaries better access to skills and resources that will help them permanently escape poverty. I support providing substantially greater resources for child care to help states and welfare recipients meet the work requirements in this legislation. It just makes sense that if we are going to expect more hours at work from beneficiaries, then we should also expect to make available the necessary child care resources to allow beneficiaries to meet those higher standards. Likewise, if we expect welfare recipients to move off assistance and become self-sufficient, then we should equip them with the training and skills they need by encouraging job training and vocational education. H.R. 4737 does not go far enough to this end.

Providing states with greater discretion and flexibility to determine the best mix of activities needed to move recipients toward self-sufficiency should also be a key component of this plan, and I think it is inadequate in that regard. Flexibility to the States is very important because one size does not fit all in welfare reform and what works well in California may not work at all in North Dakota. Welfare policy must recognize these differences by providing discretion and flexibility to the state agencies that will ultimately implement this policy. We have to correct these deficiencies, and I am confident we can do that by working with the Senate before this bill becomes law.

Mr. Speaker, common sense dictates that by removing hurdles to job training and education, by providing better access to child care, and by providing flexibility to those who will implement this policy, we greatly enhance the potential for welfare recipients to achieve self-sufficiency. I will vote in favor of H.R. 4737, but I urge my colleagues to join me in making these important improvements as the legislation moves to the Senate.