

amendment, rap music, etc. and all the implications inherent in these core issues that now crowd the African-American community's agenda. Dr. Ingram exudes the preeminence of a noble gentleman, as well as the virtues of a lucid scholar as he is wont to expound during School Board meetings his unwavering positions on equal educational opportunities for minorities, the controversial incongruence of the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT), along with his unconditional passion for justice and equal rights for all.

Ever since I have known Dr. Ingram, he has always been at the forefront of ensuring equal participation in the shared duties and responsibilities on the part of Miami-Dade County's citizenry. At the same time, his forceful advocacy in adhering to the tenets of equal treatment under the law not only in the halls of academia= but also in every segment of our government agencies has become legendary. In fact, countless others have been touched by his genuine commitment, especially towards those who could least fend for themselves.

Dr. Ingram is the consummate public servant and community activist who abides by the dictum that those who have less in life through no fault of their own should be helped by the government—regardless of race or creed, gender or class. The numerous accolades with which he has been honored by various organizations and agencies at the local, state and national levels attest to an unequivocal testimony of the utmost respect he enjoys.

Blessed with a down-to-earth common sense and yet consecrated by his religious calling to serve the “. . . least of these,” he is also imbued with the rare wisdom of recognizing both the strengths and limitations of those empowered by the electorate to govern. This unique leadership is being tested to the hilt during School Board meetings as he draws attention to the basic purpose of our public schools—that of maximizing the learning potential of every student and that the success of any school is genuinely measured by how well it is reaching out even to those students who are being left behind.

Dr. Ingram thoroughly understands the accoutrements of power and leadership, and he is wisely exercising them alongside the mandate of his conviction and the call of his conscience as he engages all their energies toward advancing the good of the community he has learned to love and care for so deeply. He exudes the kind of genuine faith and anchors his hope in the God-given abilities of the students attending the Miami-Dade County Public Schools when he stated that “. . . I firmly and passionately believe that all our kids have what it takes to succeed. The challenge is for us to reach this generation by motivating them instead of frustrating them. Children often turned off school by simple things because they are sensitive beings that we do not always respond to.”

Dr. Robert Ingram truly exemplifies a unique and responsive leadership whose courageous vision and wisdom appeals to our noble character as a caring Nation. At the risk of being presumptuous, I honor him and I want to extend to him the utmost gratitude of the Miami-Dade County community that he and I are privileged to serve.

HONORING ROBERT G. HOWELL

**HON. CAROLYN McCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 4, 2003*

Mrs. McCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Mr. Robert G. Howell, of Mineola, New York for his thirty-five years of distinguished service in the Nassau County Police Department. His retirement this year marks the end of an extraordinary career. As a Patrolman and then a Detective, Mr. Howell has worked diligently for the security and safety of our communities. He has put his life on the line everyday for the protection of others. The courage and bravery he has shown is to be commended.

A former United States Air Force officer, Mr. Howell is a proud American. Mr. Howell is also a lifelong athlete, played softball, basketball, and lacrosse everywhere from Pease Air Force Base in Portsmouth, New Hampshire to Nassau County, New York as a member of the Nassau County Police Department County team. A dedicated community member, Mr. Howell recognized the need for strong, positive role models. Since 1976, he has taught children the importance of teamwork, leadership, and perseverance as a soccer, baseball, and lacrosse coach. As a Detective, a Coach, and a loving father and husband, Mr. Howell's commitment to serving his community is unparalleled. This is not the first time Mr. Howell has been recognized for his efforts. A committed member of the Detectives Association Incorporated, where he served as President for seventeen years, he was named Law Enforcement Man of the Year in 1986. He also received acknowledgment for Excellent Police Duty twice, a Meritorious Award, and a Congressional Special Recognition Award. Now it's my turn to say thanks.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me to express our gratitude to my friend, Mr. Howell for his exemplary work and dedication to the safety and protection of his fellow Americans. His many accomplishments in his thirty-five years of service have helped make Nassau County a safe place for all.

H.R. 2971

**HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 4, 2003*

Mr. SHAW Mr. Speaker, I would like to have it noted that Mr. CARDIN of Maryland should be considered as an original cosponsor of H.R. 2971, Social Security Number Privacy and Identity Theft Prevention Act of 2003. Mr. CARDIN's name was inadvertently omitted from the list of original cosponsors at the time the bill was introduced. Mr. CARDIN has long supported efforts to protect the privacy of Social Security numbers and prevent identity theft and I am pleased to have his support on this important legislation.

CONGRATULATING THE CITY OF PEABODY, MA, ON THE CELEBRATION OF THEIR 20TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

**HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 4, 2003*

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, on September 14, the City of Peabody, Massachusetts, will celebrate its Twentieth Annual International Festival, and I will be among the more than 65,000 people who will stroll around Peabody Square enjoying the vibrant array of arts, entertainment and foods of the diverse ethnic groups that enliven civic life in Peabody today.

The International Festival was envisioned by former Mayor Peter Torigian, who initiated and continued the event as a way to celebrate the ethnic and cultural diversity of the city known historically for its important role in the leather tanning industry that was so much a part of the 19th and early 20th century economic history of our region. Under Mayor Torigian's hands-on leadership, the Festival grew exponentially over the years and has now been warmly embraced and fostered by current Mayor Michael Bonfanti, who serves as the International Festival's Honorary Chairman.

Throughout these two decades of growth and change in Peabody, there has been one very constant presence involved in the International Festival—City Councilor Judy Selesnick, who has served with great skill and enthusiasm as Chairwoman and number one volunteer for the International Festival since its beginning. This Twentieth Anniversary year will be Judy's last at the helm; she has decided to retire from the chairmanship, though few doubt that she will continue to cheer from the sidelines as each year's festivities unfold.

To Judy Selesnick, Mayor Bonfanti and Mayor Torigian, and to all of the citizens of Peabody who celebrate their diversity on this day and every day, my congratulations and best wishes for a most successful International Festival this year and my thanks to you all for your dedication to Peabody's rich heritage and hopeful future.

NOTING THE OPENING OF A CZECH REPUBLIC REGIONAL CONSUL'S OFFICE IN KANSAS CITY

**HON. DENNIS MOORE**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 4, 2003*

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the House's attention the opening of a regional consul's office for the Czech Republic in the Kansas City metropolitan area. Events are being planned from September 24 to 26 to celebrate this opening, including a visit from the Czech Republic's ambassador to the United States, Martin Palouš, to Kansas City.

For centuries, thousands of Czechs and Slovaks have immigrated to Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska. These naturalized Americans and their descendants have formed a vibrant part of America's rich cultural tapestry. Now, after only a decade since becoming a free and autonomous nation, the Czech Republic's

amazing progress toward democratization has created a unique opportunity to further strengthen the ties between Eastern Europe and America's heartland. I believe this new local consul's office can be the catalyst for further interaction, understanding and mutual appreciation.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank Sharon K. Valášek, the honorary consul of the Czech Republic to Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska, for helping to establish an official Consulate of the Czech Republic in Kansas City.

I also wish to thank the distinguished ambassador from the Czech Republic, Mr. Martin Palouš, and welcome him to Kansas City. I hope that our two nations can continue to cooperate and thrive while strengthening our bonds of friendship and commerce.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL  
JAMES P. CZEKANSKI

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 4, 2003*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to our country and the community of Riverside, California are exceptional. This country has been fortunate to have dedicated individuals who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make this country a safer and better place to live. Major General James P. Czekanski is one of these individuals. On Saturday, August 23, 2003, he will be honored as he departs from March Air Reserve Base in Riverside, California.

In 1968, Major General Czekanski, after receiving his Bachelor's Degree in history from the University of Massachusetts, attended undergraduate pilot training at Williams Air Force Base in Arizona. After completing school he attended Sewart Air Force Base in Tennessee for C-130 combat crew training and then became a tactical airlift pilot for three years at Pope Air Force Base in North Carolina in 1969. He served at Ubon Royal Thai Air Force Base in Thailand as an AC-130A Gunship aircraft commander from 1972 to 1974 at which time he attended Squadron Officer School. Over the next 4 years he would serve in various positions before obtaining his Master's degree in counseling and human development from Troy State University. In 1981 he completed Air War College.

Over the next 20 years Major General Czekanski served in numerous commands throughout the country as Chief of Tactical Airlift Operations, Commander, Vice Commander and Senior Air Reserve Technician, Inspector General, and Director of Operations. In August of 2000 he was assigned to March Air Reserve Base in Riverside, California as Commander of the 4th Air Force, Air Force Reserve Command. He has accumulated more than 7,500 hours of flight time and has flown numerous aircraft including the C-5A, C-141A/B/E/H, AC-130A, HC-130H/N/P, and KC135R.

Throughout his distinguished career Major General Czekanski has received over 20 major awards and decorations including the Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters;

Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award; National Defense Service Medal with service star; Vietnam Service Medal; and Kuwait Liberation Medal from both Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. In addition to his dedication to his military career, Major General Czekanski is a member of the Air Force Association, the Reserve Officer Association, the Order of the Daedalians and the Airlift and Tanker Association.

Major General Czekanski's tireless passion for service to country and community has contributed immensely to the betterment of our nation and to the community of Riverside, California. I am honored and proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he moves on to the next chapter of his life.

IN RECOGNITION OF INSPECTOR  
HENRY KADEN ON HIS RETIREMENT  
FROM THE UNION CITY  
POLICE DEPARTMENT

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 4, 2003*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Inspector Henry Kaden on his retirement from the Union City Police Department after 27 years of serving and protecting the public.

Inspector Kaden began his career with the Union City Police Department in 1976. In 1984, he was promoted to detective in the Crime Prevention Bureau, where he served until he became sergeant in 1985. In 1988, Inspector Kaden became commander of the Crime Prevention Unit, and, in 1989, he was promoted to lieutenant. After serving as lieutenant for eight years, he was promoted to captain in 1998, and finally, earned the rank of inspector in July, 2002.

Before his service with the Department, Inspector Kaden served in the United States Army from December 1966 to December 1968. From May 1967 until May 1968, during the Tet Offensive, Henry Kaden served in Vietnam.

Inspector Kaden has been the recipient of a number of awards and recognitions for his outstanding service to the public. In 1989, he received the McGruff Award for the National Night Out Program; in 1990, he was named Police Officer of the Year by the Knights of Columbus; in 1991, he was named a National Night Out "All Star"; and, from 1991 to 1993, his National Night Out Committee was awarded National Honors for representing a top state in the country for neighborhood safety.

Inspector Kaden has received four Medals of Valor and two Life Saving Awards from the Union City Police Department; seven Excellent Police Service Awards; two Honorable Service Awards; a Wound Medal, and two Unit Citations for his work on the Crime Prevention Bureau and as Detective Bureau Commander. The State of New Jersey awarded him with a Distinguished Service Medal and the Vietnam 25th Anniversary Commemorative Medal in 2002.

Inspector Kaden is a graduate of Emerson High School in Union City, New Jersey.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Inspector Henry Kaden for his 27

years of service with the Union City Police Department.

RECOGNITION OF THE 13TH ANNI-  
VERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF  
THE AMERICANS WITH DISABIL-  
ITIES ACT INTO LAW

**HON. KATHERINE HARRIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 4, 2003*

Ms. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a landmark civil rights anniversary in American history, which passed after we had adjourned for the District Work Period in July. Thirteen years ago, the first President Bush signed the Americans with Disabilities Act into law, launching a new era in our nation's everlasting journey towards equal opportunity for all.

This long-overdue legislation finally breathed life into the principle that every American has the right to be a full and equal participant in our society.

As Florida's Secretary of State, I was blessed to have the opportunity to apply the mission of the ADA to the cause of election reform. Beginning with my appointment to a Select Task Force in 2001, we worked to remove the obstacles that prevented persons with disabilities in Florida from enjoying the sanctity of the secret ballot and the civic majesty of going to the polls on Election Day.

Thanks to powerful advocates from Florida's disabilities community like Pam Dorwarth, Doug Towne, and Richard LaBelle as well as the skilled leadership of Colonel Charley Price in mobilizing our veterans with disabilities, Florida became the first state in the nation to pass wide-ranging legislation vindicating the voting rights of persons with disabilities.

As we celebrate how far we have come, we must not forget how many miles we still must travel to truly secure for every American the rights and privileges that most of us take for granted.

SARGE FRYE OBITUARY

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 4, 2003*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today many South Carolinians mourn the loss of Sarge Frye, who died yesterday of heart failure at the age of 90. I ask that his obituary be included in the RECORD, as printed today in the State newspaper.

[From the State, Sept. 4, 2003]

COLUMBIA.—Mr. Frye died Wednesday, September 3, 2003. Born in Medon, Tennessee, he was a son of the late Leonard A. Frye and Pearl Daniel Frye Allin. A combat veteran of World War II and Korea, he landed at Utah Beach on D-Day. He was decorated with two Bronze Stars, a Purple Heart, and Combat Infantry Badge. He retired in 1953 as a master sergeant after 23 years of service in the U.S. Army. While serving in the Armed Forces, Sarge was an outstanding athlete, participating in basketball, baseball, softball and track as a player and coach. He met his wife, Ruby, while stationed in Alabama. The