

countries in the world. Terrorism must be stopped and Taiwan has done its best to help eliminate terrorism worldwide. We appreciate Taiwan's support.

TRIBUTE TO MR. FRANCIS JOSEPH
GIANTOMASI

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 10, 2003

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the work of an outstanding individual, Mr. Francis Joseph Giantomasi. On Saturday, October 11, 2003, Mr. Giantomasi was honored at the Columbian Foundation Annual Columbus Day Humanitarian and Achievement Awards Dinner for his generosity and public service.

Frank Giantomasi has dedicated the past 24 years to selflessly working to improve the quality of life for the men and women of Essex County. It is only fitting that he be honored, in this, the permanent record of the greatest freely elected body on earth.

Born and raised in the Ironbound Section of Newark, NJ, Frank attended East Side High School before earning his teacher certification and a B.A. in History at St. Peter's College in Jersey City. Shortly after graduating, Frank began to consider a career in law and enrolled at the Seton Hall Law Center in Newark, New Jersey. Three years later, Frank graduated with a Juris Doctorate degree and, in 1979, he was admitted to the New Jersey State Bar.

Opening a private practice in the city of Newark, Frank immediately began to demonstrate his strong personal commitment to justice. Although his primary focus was on real estate and developmental law, Mr. Giantomasi soon made a name for himself as a general litigator in courtrooms throughout northern New Jersey and New York. His reputation for integrity and leadership in important issues soon led to his being named the County Counsel for Essex County.

Throughout his years living and working in Essex County, Francis Giantomasi has continued to give back to the community at large, serving the public both in and out of the courtroom. He has been a member of the West Essex YMCA Board of Managers, a member of the Newark International Airport Aviation Commission, and a member of the Ironbound Bank Board of Directors. More recently, Mr. Giantomasi has volunteered his time as the Chairman of the March of Dimes Essex County Jail & Bail Program, as cochairman of the Newark Fresh Air fund, and as chairman of the Essex Fells Democratic Committee. To each of these positions, Frank has brought the sense of excellence, initiative, and creativity that has made him one of the foremost men in his field.

Mr. Giantomasi's exemplary service and spirit of volunteerism has been recognized throughout Essex County and Northern New Jersey. In 1989, he was placed on the East Side High School's Alumni Roster of Superior Merit, and in 1990, he was honored by the Ironbound Boys' & Girls' Club as their Citizen of the Year. In May 1992, the Newark Star Ledger named Francis Giantomasi the Jerseyman of the Week, and he has since been twice named Man of the Year—once by the

Church of Saint James Benefactors and once by the County of Essex.

Mr. Speaker, the job of a U.S. Congressman involves so much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing the extraordinary efforts of public servants like Francis Giantomasi. I ask that you join our colleagues and me in recognizing the invaluable service of Mr. Francis Joseph Giantomasi.

RECOGNIZING OF MARK ADAMS
TAYLOR, FORMER CHAIRMAN,
COMMUNITY BOARD SIX

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 10, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Mark Adams Taylor, former chairman of Community Board Six in Manhattan. As chairman, Mr. Taylor fulfilled his duties with enthusiasm and skill.

Community Boards are in many ways the most democratic branch of local government. They provide a forum for all citizens to air their concerns and give their opinions. Members of the community board, particularly the chair, serve long hours without pay with the lofty goal of improving their neighborhood. It takes a special dedication to chair a community board. To moderate the passionate concerns of board members and residents requires great patience, organizational skills and intelligence. Mark Adams Taylor was, in many ways, a perfect Board Chair.

During his tenure as chairman of Community Board Six, Mr. Taylor was a great advocate for all the neighborhoods in his community. One of the highlights of his time as chair was the opening of Stuyvesant Cove Park in the spring of 2003. Residents of Stuyvesant Cove had desired a park in their neighborhood for years. With the cooperation of Community Board Six, all the local elected officials and the community, the park finally became a reality. It will eventually include an environmental learning center, with classrooms, a cafe, and a local museum.

An example of Mr. Taylor's dedication to Community Board Six came on September 11, 2001. Mr. Taylor's first thoughts were of his fellow board members, as he made sure to account for each one. He also provided support for police and fire departments, as well as local hospitals. His tireless efforts were greatly appreciated by the community in its time of need.

Perhaps Mr. Taylor's greatest achievement was his success in improving the efficiency and functionality of Community Board Six. He moved the board's office from a small two-bedroom apartment to a much larger office space in the UN Plaza. He streamlined the format of the Board's meetings, to make them more efficient and less time-consuming. These changes have vastly improved the experience of participating in a Community Board meeting.

In recognition of his many outstanding achievements, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mark Adams Taylor. Mr. Taylor's spirit and dedication to our community serve as a model for us all.

SUPPORTING OF THE PASSAGE OF
THE RESOLUTION HONORING
RALPH BUNCHE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 10, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to add my voice to those of my colleagues who will vote today in support of my resolution honoring the great Ambassador Ralph Bunche. I also give my special commendation to the chairman of the Committee on Government Reform, Congressman TOM DAVIS, as well as HENRY WAXMAN, the ranking member of the aforementioned committee, who made a special effort to expedite getting H. Con. Res. 71 to the House floor.

Ralph Bunche, who I am proud to say, lived a great portion of his life in New York, was truly a pioneer. He defied the odds of the times, achieving in a number of areas, from diplomacy to education, while standing as a quiet yet effective warrior in the struggle to breakdown the negative perceptions of inferiority then held about African-Americans.

Ralph Bunche graduated valedictorian, summa cum laude, and Phi Beta Kappa from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1927. In 1934, he became the first African-American to receive a doctoral degree in Government and International Relations at Harvard University. Mr. Bunche continued his passion for education by establishing and chairing the Political Science Department at Howard University from 1928–1941. In 1950, Mr. Bunche became the first African-American and person of color to receive a Nobel Prize.

Mr. Bunche is one of this Nation's most distinguished diplomats, and his commitment to international relations and the attainment of human rights internationally has not only benefited the United States, but has had lasting effects on the entire world. He was a founder of the United Nations, the preeminent world body, and he carried on his global mission by selflessly devoting himself to the cause of independence for many African countries, which until the 1960s, were shackled under the yoke of European colonialism.

During his centennial year, I am extremely pleased that the 108th Congress has elected to recognize one of the great architects of the United Nations, which, in the wake of the unilateral invasion of Iraq, is facing its greatest challenge as the embodiment of peacekeeping and international cooperation. This resolution is especially appropriate at this time, for in recognizing Ralph Bunche, we also acknowledge the value of the United Nations to the world and especially, to the United States.

CHILD NUTRITION IMPROVEMENT
ACT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 10, 2003

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today my colleagues and I are introducing legislation to improve the nutrition and health of our nation's children by promoting increased consumption of milk in schools. Drinking more milk is a simple, natural step that

students can take to build bone strength during critical years, obtain a unique package of important nutrients and promote their health and well-being.

Throughout Mississippi's Second District, parents and school administrators alike have expressed their desire to see improvements made to the national school lunch program. The most repeated and sound suggestion I have heard is the need to increase milk consumption; thereby, strengthening the short- and long-term health of our children. That is why this legislation is important.

Since the first Federal aid was committed to providing warm meals at schools in 1932, a number of programs have evolved into the current national school lunch program. As we introduce this measure, Congress is at work to reauthorize the various child nutrition programs that have been so important in helping children and their mothers to achieve good dietary habits. I hope the bill we are introducing today—the Child Nutrition Improvement Act of 2003—can be included in the reauthorization legislation, and will work with the Committee on Education and the Workforce to make sure that happens.

For a variety of reasons, Americans have been consuming less fluid milk over recent decades. For example, the average per capita consumption of milk by children age 13–17 fell by over 20 percent just between 1996 and 2001. It is not a coincidence that large numbers of Americans are deficient in calcium. Some 85 percent of girls age 9–18 fail to get enough calcium; the same is true for over 70 percent of boys in the same age group.

Fortunately, we now know how to increase milk consumption in the schools. Thanks to a 146-school, 100,000-student pilot study by

the National Dairy Council and the American School Food Service Association during the 2001–02 school year, we know that by improving packaging, flavor variety, refrigeration, merchandising and other aspects of school milk, we can not only increase milk sales but also bring more students back into the cafeteria—thereby increasing their consumption not just of milk but of fruits, vegetables, and other healthy foods as well.

In the test schools, students got extra flavors; drank milk out of more attractive and easy-open packaging; selected the milk from modern glass-front merchandisers; and found their milk consistently cold because of extra attention to refrigeration. The result was a 15 percent milk sales increase in elementary schools, and a 22 percent increase in secondary schools. In addition, average daily participation in the school meal programs was some 5 percent higher in test schools than in control schools.

If these results were repeated nationwide, 430,000 new students would participate in our school meal programs. Another 2.1 million students who already participate but do not drink milk would become milk drinkers. By adopting and maintaining a healthier diet, these 2.6 million students would decrease their lifetime risk of six major health conditions: coronary heart disease, type II diabetes, colorectal cancer, osteoporosis, stroke and hypertension. A study conducted by Promar International estimated health-care cost savings of from \$800 million to \$1.1 billion per year as a result.

This legislation, the Child Nutrition Improvement Act of 2003, takes the lessons learned from the school milk pilot test and seeks to provide schools with the ability and incentive to promote increased milk consumption. The

legislation has the unified support of the nation's dairy farmers and milk processors—it is endorsed by both the National Milk Producers Federation and the International Dairy Foods Association.

The bill will: Require the Secretary of Agriculture to offer schools a higher meal reimbursement rate when they adopt improvements to packaging, flavor variety and other aspects of school milk; allow a wide variety of branded, flavored milk to be sold a la carte alongside the milk in the regular meal line; continue the requirement to offer milk with each school meal, but give school food service professionals the ability to decide what types of milk to offer, enhancing local choice; give all schools the freedom to sell milk at any school facility or event, regardless of any other beverage contracts the school may have; and authorize a Healthy School Environment Program to make grants to schools that improve nutrition and physical activity.

Mr. Speaker, I invite all our colleagues to cosponsor this important legislation. We need to work toward improvements in our children's nutrition and fitness—the nation's obesity crisis demands our urgent attention. This bill will encourage healthier diets and better intake of critical nutrients among children in their formative years: the most critical years for bone formation, when adequate calcium is most important.

We will work with all our colleagues of both parties, as well as in the other body where similar legislation has been introduced. We can reverse the dangerous trend of declining milk consumption, and we can begin to do it right now.