

stepson Sean Drummond and one stepdaughter Tamberline Drummond of New Jersey.

Faith graduated valedictorian of her class from St Francis de Salle Boarding School for Girls in Powatan, Virginia in 1967. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Education and English from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville summa cum laude in 1972 but her real education began with her broadcast career. Her first job was at WBR in Knoxville, TN. She was the first Black female journalist in Knoxville.

Faith Fancher was a remarkably strong human being. Her spirit-filled life inspired many to do good, to be humble, and to stay positive. Her smile, her diligent and dedicated work—in spite of the odds—kept hope alive for many. Faith's love for the human family transcended artificial barriers and truly united us. Faith touched the lives of many, and as we celebrate her life, let us rededicate ourselves to her values and her vision for a better world. Faith lived a life filled with "faith, hope, and love." For this, we are deeply grateful.

To Faith's family, friends and fans, I extend my deepest sympathy.

H. CON. RES. 305, "IF YOU BUILD IT THEY WILL COME" BASEBALL FRIENDSHIP ACT

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution, H. Con. Res. 305, "If You Build It They Will Come" Baseball Friendship Act, expressing the sense of Congress that Major League Baseball should select Monterrey, Mexico, as a host for a quarter of the Montreal Expos games next season as a show of goodwill between the United States and Mexico.

In recent weeks, the United States Ambassador to Mexico Tony Garza has written to the Commissioner of Major League Baseball Bud Selig urging the League to play a quarter of their home games in Mexico.

The Montreal Expos were bought by the other 29 Major League Baseball franchises before the 2002 season, and to increase revenue, Major League Baseball relocated 22 Expos home games to San Juan, Puerto Rico, for the 2003 season. Under this proposal, the people of Puerto Rico can continue to enjoy Major League Baseball.

Major League Baseball officials have spent many months discussing a permanent move of the Montreal Expos franchise, despite baseball's intention to decide by the end of the regular season, it appears no long-term site will be selected for the 2004 season.

Monterrey, Mexico, is a metropolitan area of about 3 million people 130 miles south of Laredo, TX, and is one of the safest cities in Latin America. Monterrey has played host to a number of successful major league baseball games over the last few years, and is the longtime home to the Sultans of the Mexican League, and the Sultans ballpark that could be expanded to more than 30,000 seats.

I believe a commitment from Major League Baseball to play a quarter of the Montreal Expos' home games in Mexico would be a

strong statement of friendship and goodwill between our countries and cultures, as we have shared with our other neighbor, Canada, for nearly 30 years. It's time that we include Mexico and make baseball the North American pastime. For the good of baseball, for the good of the people of these two great nations, if we build it, they will come.

HONORING THE STRONG BOND BETWEEN THE MONTEREY INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES AND THE PEACE CORPS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the strong bond between the Monterey Institute of International Studies and the Peace Corps. The Monterey Institute is strongly committed to preparing individuals for two years of dedicated service in the Peace Corps with a new Master's International Program. Students who successfully return after volunteering in the Peace Corps through the Master's International Program are eligible to receive scholarships, which can cover eight of the remaining credits for the final semester. This has become a great tool for students in fulfilling their educational requirements.

Since its inception in 1961, President John F. Kennedy challenged the youth of this country to experience and work to relieve the poverty in underdeveloped countries. After 42 years, the Peace Corps have grown to have over 170,000 volunteers in 136 different countries. These courageous and enthusiastic young people have helped change third world countries through education, business development, and most recently, volunteers are helping as a part of President Bush's HIV/AIDS Act of 2003.

I am proud to say that I share the honorable and memorable experience of volunteering my service for the Peace Corps in Colombia during 1964–66. Mr. Lawrence Horan, the Director of the Monterey Institute of International Studies, had the same experience with the Peace Corps and today is now helping hundreds of current volunteers through their experience. Mr. Horan, the Monterey Institute of International Studies, and the Peace Corps as well should be commended for helping shape the world into a better place.

TRIBUTE TO NICK AND ROSE MARIE NEKOLA

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress and this Nation today to pay tribute to two outstanding citizens from my district. Nick and Rose Marie Nekola of Pueblo, Colorado own and operate a valued Pueblo institution, lanne's Pizzeria. For years, they have worked to provide a quality product and diligent service to local residents. For their hard work and dedication, I am honored to pay tribute to Nick and Rose here today.

lanne's Pizzeria was opened by Rose's parents in 1954, at a time when the word "pizza" was foreign to most Puebloans. Nick and Rose took control of the pizzeria 32 years ago and have operated it ever since. In addition to serving quality food, the Nekolas have created a friendly and welcoming environment at lanne's. Many of their employees have been with the restaurant for over 20 years, and it is not unusual to meet a customer who has patronized the pizzeria for 30 years. Under the Nekolas' guidance, lanne's has become a staple of downtown Pueblo.

Mr. Speaker, in today's climate of transition and change, it is truly refreshing to encounter an establishment dedicated to tradition and quality. Nick and Rose Marie Nekola have worked hard to make lanne's Pizzeria an institution in the Pueblo community. For their hard work and integrity, I am honored to join with my colleagues in recognizing Nick and Rose Marie Nekola here today.

HONORING THE PRYOR FAMILY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, family reunions are one of America's great traditions. This is especially true in my area of southwest Georgia, where some of the country's oldest and biggest family reunions are held. One of these is the Pryor family reunion, which has convened in the community of Leslie every year for the past century, attracting hundreds of people from Georgia and other States. This year's reunion was held on October 4. I would like to share an article about this year's 100th anniversary reunion in the Cordele Dispatch written by Ms. Betsy Butler, a descendant and a writer and editor for the newspaper.

The year was 1903. Only 14 percent of the homes in the United States had a bathtub. Only 8 percent had a telephone. There were only 8,000 cars in the U.S. and only 144 miles of paved roads. The American flag had 45 stars. Arizona, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Hawaii and Alaska hadn't been admitted to the Union yet. Today, 100 years later, we live in a world of airplanes and computers that connect people on opposite ends of the earth. Boy, how things change. But one thing has stayed the same—the Pryor family gathering.

Since 1903 the family has been coming to the small town of Leslie. What started as a gathering to mark the 50th wedding anniversary of Shepherd Green Pryor and Penelope Eudora Tyson Pryor on October 4, 1903, has continued to bring the family together for 100 years.

Shepherd and Penelope had seven living children, 32 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Most of these attended the celebration, which would become the first annual family reunion.

According to Frank Wilson, a descendant, the menu has stayed the same for 100 years—barbecue. Over the years, each generation has assumed the responsibility for being sure the reunion goes on. "The family has stuck together and done what needs to be done," Wilson said. "We have never struggled to have a host."

There is a lot of history to the family. With two published books about the family, one being a narrative and the other, "A Post of Honor," being a collection of letters written between Shepherd and Penelope during

the Civil War. In June of 2001 over 140 descendants traveled to Virginia for the dedication of Civil War breastplates. Quotes from the letters . . . were used on the Confederate breast-works plaques.

This year's reunion is no different from the 99 before it (as) hundreds of family members ascend on Leslie and spend the afternoon together over a barbeque lunch. In 100 years the world has evolved from a world of only one in 10 homes with a telephone to a world with an information highway. But one thing has stayed the same—the Pryor family gathering.

TRIBUTE TO DR. MOHAMMED ALI
ODEEN ISHMAEL

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to my friend Dr. Mohammed Ali Odeen Ishmael, Ambassador of Guyana to the United States of America and Permanent Representative of Guyana to the Organization of American States.

Ambassador Odeen Ishmael, who was born in 1948, was appointed to his current post, more than 10 years ago, in June 1993 and is presently the Dean of the Caribbean Ambassador.

Before becoming an Ambassador, Dr. Ishmael previously worked as a teacher in Guyana, and served during the 1970s in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Guyana. He returned to teaching after his stint in Foreign Affairs. From 1985 to early 1993 he worked in The Bahamas in the areas of both secondary and adult education. He has represented Guyana at the OAS General Assemblies, and other specialized meetings of the hemispheric body in various countries of the hemisphere and has participated as a member of Guyana's delegation at the U.N. General Assembly since 1993. In addition, he has headed Guyana's delegation to meetings of the Regional Negotiating Machinery (of CARICOM) from 1997. From 1997, he has headed Guyana's delegations to meetings Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC); and he also participated in the Summits of Heads of States of the OIC in Tehran (1997) and Qatar (2000).

Ambassador Ishmael was also Guyana's chief negotiator at the Summits of the Americas of 1994 (Miami), 1998 (Santiago de Chile) and 2001 (Quebec City), and also at the Summit of Sustainable Development in Bolivia (1996). At the OAS, he served as Chairman of the Permanent Council in late 1994, and oversaw the restoration of democratic government in Haiti. He is the only Guyanese to serve in this prestigious position in the hemispheric organization.

He had previously served as Vice-Chairman of the Permanent Council during July-September 1993, and as Vice-Chairman of the Environmental Committee of the Permanent Council from August 1993 to July 1994. In 1994 he was also elected Chairman of the General Committee to prepare the OAS draft convention on the situation of persons with disabilities. In 1996, he was elected Vice-Chairman of the OAS Working Group on Sustainable Development.

In May 1997, Ambassador Ishmael was awarded one of Guyana's highest honors, the

Cacique Crown on Honor (CCH). Many years earlier, in 1974, he was awarded the Gandhi Centenary Medal at the University of Guyana. In political life, Ambassador Ishmael served in the Central Committees of the Progressive Youth Organization (PYO)—serving as Second Secretary—and the People's Progressive Party (PPP) of Guyana, and in the course of his political work, he participated in numerous international conferences and activities in many different countries. He also assisted in lobbying Guyana's case for electoral reforms in different countries in North and South America, Europe and the Caribbean.

He has written numerous articles on Education, Guyanese history and international political issues, which have been published in newspapers and journals in Guyana, the Caribbean and North America. His published books include Problems of the Transition of education in the Third World, Towards Education Reform in Guyana, and Amerindian Legends of Guyana. An Internet edition of a fourth book, The Trail of Diplomacy, was released in late 1998. He is currently in the process of compiling and editing a lengthy collection of original documents on the Guyana-Venezuela border issue under the title, Guyana's Western Border. He is married and has two children.

I met Ambassador Ishmael when I was first elected to the House of Representatives and served as the Honorary Co-Chair of the Institute for Caribbean Studies Annual Awards Dinner. In the flowing years, I had the pleasure of working with him and his other Caribbean Ambassador colleagues on the several issues, from Trade to Immigration, and economic development, which continue to impact our democratic neighbors to the south.

I want to thank Ambassador Ishmael and his family for his commitment and dedication, during his tenure here in Washington, not only to issues affecting his home country Guyana but also to the issues and concerns of all of the countries of the Caribbean. I want to wish him much success in his new assignment and to say that Washington, DC Caribbean community will greatly surely miss his insightful, quiet leadership as well as his earnest friendship.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT AUSTIN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress and the Nation today to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen from my district. Robert Austin of Gunnison, Colorado recently announced he will leave the Gunnison Valley Hospital after 19 years of dedicated service. As Robert embarks on a new phase of his life, I am honored to take this opportunity to recognize his accomplishments here today.

President of the Gunnison Valley Hospital since 1984, Robert has led the hospital through many changes. He has overseen the hiring of numerous surgeons, four building expansions, the creation of a long-term business plan, and Gunnison Valley's designation as a Critical Access Hospital. Through it all, Robert has worked hard to run the hospital fairly and compassionately.

In addition to his work at the hospital, Robert is very active in his community. The Gunnison Rotary Club, the Gunnison Area Foundation, and the Western State College Advisory Council all benefit from Robert's participation. In addition, he is a member of the Colorado Hospital Association, where he served as the association's Chair in 1995, and the Governing Council for Small and Rural Hospitals for the American Hospital Association.

Mr. Speaker, Robert Austin has been an effective leader in the health care industry and an active member of his community for many years. His hard work and dedication have benefited an untold number of Coloradans. For his tireless efforts and years of service, I am honored to join with my colleagues in paying tribute to Robert here today.

IN HONOR OF MAYOR RICHARD
CLAIRE

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mayor Richard Claire, an extraordinary citizen of San Mateo County, California and a distinguished leader of Redwood City, who is retiring after serving on the City Council of Redwood City for twenty years.

Richard Claire is known to the people of Redwood City as Dick Claire. He has been a resident of Redwood City since his childhood and is a product of the resources the San Francisco Peninsula and South Bay have to offer. Dick Claire attended Sequoia High School in Redwood City, went on to study at the College of San Mateo, and received his Master's degree in Business Administration from Santa Clara University.

Dick Claire is exceedingly proud of his local education and he has continued to give back to his community as a full-time instructor in the San Mateo County Community College District. During the 2002–2003 school year, he served as Academic President for the District and the College of San Mateo, and he is currently serving as Academic President of Cañada College. In May of 2002, his outstanding work spanning twenty-five years of service with the Community College District was honored by the Board of Trustees.

Dick Claire's career has included positions as Corporate Controller at Raychem and Controller for Ferrex Corporation. He's been an accounting consultant and in his spare time returned to his alma mater to act as Sequoia High School's football coach and later as manager for Redwood City Little League Baseball Senior League.

Beyond his activities with the San Mateo County Community College District and youth athletic teams, Dick Claire has been a real leader in Redwood City for over a quarter of a century. He served on the City's Planning Commission from August 1978 through April 1982, and was Chairman of the Commission. In April 1982, he was elected to the City Council, where he has been reelected an astonishing four times by the people of Redwood City. He has twice been selected by his Council colleagues to serve as the Mayor. He's also