

ever with the guidance and leadership of Rev. end Waterman.

Mr. Speaker, in a short time, Rev. Robert M. Waterman has already made a positive difference in the lives of the Antioch Baptist Church congregation and the Bedford-Stuyvesant community. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable individual.

RECOGNIZING MATTHEW FISH FOR
ACHIEVING THE AWARD OF
GOLD MEDAL OF ACHIEVEMENT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 29, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Matthew Fish, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Royal Rangers of Northern Missouri and in earning the most prestigious award, the Gold Medal of Achievement.

Matthew has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the 10 years Matthew has been involved with the Rangers, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Patrol Guide and Senior Patrol Guide. He also was involved in Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship, Fine Arts Youth Department, and elected as National Scout.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Matthew Fish for his accomplishments with the Royal Rangers and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Gold Medal of Achievement.

HONORING THOMAS J. SERRA ON
THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 29, 2003

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join in paying tribute to one of Connecticut's finest school administrators and community activists. People like Thomas Serra are what make our communities strong. From his important work educating the young people of Middletown for the past 30 years to his involvement in many other settings, he has dedicated his life to public service.

I often speak of our Nation's need for talented, creative, enthusiastic teachers who are ready to help our children learn and grow. Tom Serra is just that kind of educator. Throughout his career, he has touched the lives of thousands of children—ensuring that they had the skills and tools necessary to be successful in their adult lives. Tom began as an English instructor at Vinal Technical High School where he would later take on the role of athletic coordinator. Fourteen years ago, Tom moved into administration becoming the school's assistant director and for the last six years, he has been leading Vinal as the Director.

Public education is the cornerstone of the American dream, leveling the playing field and providing every child with the opportunity to make the most of his or her talents. It is talented professionals like Tom who truly shape the leaders of tomorrow. He is dedicated to the positive development of not only our children's intellect, but their character development as well. In speaking to Tom, his remarkable commitment and dedication to his students and Vinal is undeniable and I am sure his presence will be missed.

As a lifelong resident of Middletown, Tom is deeply involved in the life of his community. In serving one term as Mayor, actively participating on the Democratic Town Committee, the City Council, the Police Commission, as well as a myriad of other municipal committees and local service organizations, he has become one of Middletown's most respected and highly-regarded leaders. I am confident that even in his retirement he will remain a strong and vocal advocate for Middletown and its residents.

Today, as Tom celebrates his retirement, I would like to express my deepest thanks and appreciation for his tireless efforts on behalf of the City of Middletown. He is a leader who is second to none, and his talent and commitment have enriched our lives. It is with great pleasure that I join his wife, Maryann; his children, Jason and Christopher; as well as the many family, friends, and community members who have gathered this evening to wish Tom many more years of health and happiness.

HONORING ST. BARNABUS
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 29, 2003

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of St. Barnabas Episcopal School in Deland, Florida for the accomplishment of being chosen as a "National No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School of Excellence." St. Barnabas has been an exceptional example of how the "No Child Left Behind" program ensures that every child learns, and that no child will ever be forgotten.

Since its conception in 1982, by the United States Secretary of Education under President Reagan, the Blue Ribbon School of Excellence has identified public and private schools throughout the country that exhibit extraordinary teaching and learning techniques. The Blue Ribbon award is given to a school in recognition of exemplary performance in the fields of both education and community service. This year, the United States Department of Education recognized 176 public and 47 private schools as Blue Ribbon Schools. St. Barnabas was the only Episcopal School to be recognized for this award this year. In order to be recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School, an intense, research-based list of criteria must be met. A Blue Ribbon School must excel in all areas of academic leadership, teaching, faculty and parent involvement, student achievement levels, as well as safety and discipline levels. With standardized test scores constantly in the top 10 percent of the nation, St. Barnabas qualified by submitting their application for the National Blue Ribbon.

Founded in 1971, St. Barnabas is also accredited by the Florida Council of Independent Schools. The school has an enrollment of 344 students ranging from Pre-Kindergarten to 8th Grade. What makes St. Barnabas excellent is the school's drive for excellence both in and out of the classroom by stressing the growth of the student's character as well as intellect. The school focuses on academic excellence, as well as sound moral values and high self esteem. As an Episcopal School, St. Barnabas also stresses a strong relationship with God and the community in order to build well-rounded students and citizens.

On a more personal note, my grandmother, Nora Walker, was a principal, so education runs in my family. I understand the difficulties of teaching and raising young children, especially in today's society. That is why I firmly believe in the President's "No Child Left Behind" plan for education and believe it is the best course of action for our nation's schools. I am very pleased to see St. Barnabas Episcopal School following the President's plan in becoming a "No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School of Excellence."

Mr. Speaker, St. Barnabas should be an inspiration to us all and I am honored to recognize them today in front of the entire Congress as pillars of the community as well as leaders in the field of education.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 29, 2003

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, on roll-call no. 570, Basic Pilot Extension Act of 2003, had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

A TRIBUTE TO DR WALDABA H.
STEWART, JR., PH.D

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 29, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Dr. Waldaba H. Stewart, Jr. for his commitment to public service and active involvement in New York's civic affairs for more than 40 years.

While Dr. Waldaba H. Stewart, Jr. is a native of Panama, he has been a vital asset to the Brooklyn community for more than four decades. Starting with the Unity Democratic Club in 1960, he worked as an Election District Captain and Campaign Manager for the late Thomas R. Fortune, Executive Member. Dr. Stewart was a diligent member of the Unity Democratic Club advising and supporting in all political elections.

In 1968, he began his own political career as a successful candidate for State Senate, where he served for four years. From 1968–1969, he served as Statewide Chairman of the NAACP Political Action and Voter Registration Committee. He was also one of the founding members of the Board of Directors of the Commerce, Labor, and County of Kings Corporation that converted the Brooklyn Navy

Yard into an industrial park. Additionally, Dr. Stewart was a member of the New York State Governor Mario Cuomo's Advisory Committee on Black Affairs and a New York State delegate to President Jimmy Carter's White House Conference on Small Business.

Dr. Stewart has been very active in ensuring a strong future for Kings County Hospital. From 1984–1990, Dr. Stewart served as chairperson of the Community Advisory Board of Kings County Hospital and a member of the Medical Board. In 1984, he began a campaign for the rebuilding and modernization of Kings County Hospital, resulting in the current rebuilding program of more than \$100 million, which was completed in 2002. In the community, Dr. Stewart has also served as the Chairperson of the Program Development Committee of the Community Advisory Board from 1980–1984, and 1991–1998.

Currently, Dr. Stewart is the director of the Southern Diaspora Research and Development Center (SDRDC), which is a non-governmental organization. The executive members, officers and all of the members of Unity Democratic Club salute Dr. Waldaba Stewart for his enduring and strong support.

Mr. Speaker, in a short time, Dr. Waldaba H. Stewart, Jr. has been a dedicated public servant for more than 40 years, demonstrating a real commitment to the community. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable individual.

RECOGNIZING ANDREW STAFFORD
FOR ACHIEVING THE AWARD OF
GOLD MEDAL OF ACHIEVEMENT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 29, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Andrew Stafford, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Royal Rangers of Northern Missouri and in earning the most prestigious award, the Gold Medal of Achievement.

Andrew has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the 11 years Andrew has been involved with the Rangers, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Patrol Guide and Senior Patrol Guide. He also was involved in Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship and Fine Arts Youth Department.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Andrew Stafford for his accomplishments with the Royal Rangers and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Gold Medal of Achievement.

HONORING THE HONORABLE
GUIDO CALABRESI AS HE IS
HONORED WITH THE CHARLES A.
RAPALLO AWARD

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 29, 2003

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, It is with great pride that I rise today to join the Columbian Lawyers Association in paying tribute to one of the New Haven community's most outstanding citizens, and my dear friend, the Honorable Guido Calabresi. In recognition of his contributions, Judge Calabresi will be honored with the thirty-eighth annual Charles A. Rapallo Award.

The first Italian-American appointed to the New York State Court of Appeals, Charles A. Rapallo has served as an example to many young law professionals. Each year, the Columbian Lawyers Association, a professional organization of Italian-American attorneys, honors an individual who has demonstrated a unique commitment to the field of law. Though he has been recognized with a myriad of honorary degrees, awards, and commendations—both in the United States and abroad—the Charles A. Rapallo Award is a true reflection of the many invaluable contributions Guido has made to the judiciary and the bench.

Born in Milan, Italy, Judge Calabresi has become one of New Haven's most respected scholars in the field of Law. Graduating from Yale University, Oxford University, and Yale Law School, where he was first in his class, his impressive career has spanned nearly half a century. From clerking for United States Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black, to serving as Dean and Sterling Professor at Yale Law School, to his judicial appointment to the United States Court of Appeals—his has been a career that will leave a legacy which is sure to inspire generations to come. He has lived the American Dream.

Throughout his life, Judge Calabresi has also demonstrated a unique commitment to his community. As a professor, he continues to touch the lives of hundreds. Though appointed to the United States Appeals Court nearly a decade ago, Judge Calabresi continues to serve as a member of the faculty of Yale Law School as Sterling Professor Emeritus and Professional Lecturer. Those he has trained will go on to teach others, for his is not just a legacy of books and articles but of ideas and inspiration.

I have known Judge Calabresi for many years and consider myself fortunate to call him my friend. It is with great pleasure that I stand today to join his wife, Anne, family, friends, and colleagues in extending my congratulations to Judge Guido Calabresi on this very special occasion. Friend, teacher, public servant—he has left an indelible mark on this community and we have been fortunate to benefit from his brilliance and unparalleled generosity.

HONORING LESLIE AND RITA
GORENFLO, 2002 ANGELS IN
ADOPTION

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 29, 2003

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Leslie and Rita Gorenflo, my 2002 Angels in Adoption.

Every year the Congressional Coalition on Adoption asks Members of Congress for an honoree(s) from their congressional district that has made a remarkable difference in the area of adoption. Last year the Children's Home Society of Florida informed me of a very special family in Palm Beach County, the Gorenflos.

Mr. Speaker, Leslie and Rita Gorenflo have blessed the lives of six children who they have adopted. All of the children in their home have special needs, most of them medical. Rita is a registered nurse, but no longer works outside the home because she practices her nursing skills with her children. Along with giving out medication, administering tube feedings and breathing treatments, Rita hands out much love and encouragement. Les works long and hard so that Rita can stay at home to care for the children and be their advocate.

Not only is Rita a wonderful advocate for her children, she is always the first to volunteer to speak publicly to share her story and encourage others to adopt. It is not unusual to see this family's picture in the newspaper, or on television, telling the world what an honor and privilege it is to be an adoptive parent. The smiles on the faces of the children tell how blessed they are to be members of this loving family.

Mr. Speaker, November is National Adoption Month, and as our nation honors both adoptive parents and children, we salute those who have made a loving family environment for so many children. I am honored to have this wonderful family as constituents in my congressional district and I am proud to recognize them as Angels in Adoption.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 29, 2003

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 569, rule to recommit the Conference Report on H.R. 2215, rollcall No. 571, Markey motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 6, rollcall No. 572, Woolsey Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 1308, rollcall No. 5731, Brown (OH) Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 1, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

A TRIBUTE TO RAUL KING

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 29, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Raul King for his success in the realty business, which has earned him the Thomas R. Fortune Business Award.