

couldn't maintain her composure, an wept with the women. She wept because she felt helpless. She wept for the victims of the terrorist attack.

The following day, she was back at her office at the Immigrants' Assistance Center, advocating for immigrants' rights with the same energy she always carried, even if the woes were now almost insurmountable.

Those who know Ms. Marques say she is the kind of woman: one who easily gets involved in the suffering of those she helps, but also one who can be a non-nonsense advocate and diplomat, businesswoman and lobbyist.

Ms. Marques, 42, picked up an agency in tatters when she took over the helm in 1996, led it through its greatest growth, and is now fighting on several fronts to maintain the level of service she helped create.

For all she has done since 1996, Ms. Marques is *The Standard-Times'* 2002 SouthCoast Woman of the Year.

Ms. Marques, a mother of one from Acushnet, with a bachelor's degree in business administration, started her job with IAC as a secretary more than 20 years ago, when the agency had only four employees and a small budget.

She rose through the ranks and in 1996 became the executive director of the now much bigger 31-year-old agency.

Coincidence or not, the year 1996 would forever be engraved in the history of IAC and of immigrant rights in America.

The agency was placed on probation by the United Way due to administrative shortcomings and it had also suffered severe cuts in funding from the state and federal governments.

Nationally, immigrants were losing welfare benefits and a new, stiffer deportation law was quietly coming into effect, which would soon devastate many area families.

"When I got promoted to this position it was at a time things were the worst," Ms. Marques said. "The worst year anybody can take over an agency."

Nevertheless, Ms. Marques, one of seven Madeiran immigrant children and the product of the New Bedford public schools, persisted.

She rolled up her sleeves and got to work.

In four years, Ms. Marques tripled IAC's size, turning it from a struggling agency into a major immigrant services and advocacy group. New programs sprung up during the time and the agency opened two branch offices, including one in Taunton.

Some of the programs Ms. Marques helped create include the native language citizenship classes, educational in-jail programs for individuals facing deportation and citizenship programs in schools. Additionally, she helped form the Women Immigrants Support Hub for family members of deportees.

The agency also expanded beyond the Portuguese community and started serving other immigrant groups in the city.

One major effort included raising national and international attention to the effects of the 1996 deportation laws, which locally have resulted in the deportation of more than 400 Portuguese nationals and more than 100 Cape Verdean nationals.

The plight of those immigrants struck a chord because many were being deported for seemingly minor crimes after living most of their lives in the United States.

Ms. Marques took the cause wholeheartedly.

As a deportation fighter, sometimes she stood in the rain with WISH members, holding signs in front of District Attorney Paul F. Walsh Jr.'s office to stop a local deportation program. She also shared hugs at community events and personally talked with anyone who wished to speak with her.

Other times she traveled to Washington to bring the local message to politicians or ap-

peared on television and radio shows to spread the word.

She also became a well-known person in the community, befriending Sofia Milos, the star of the yet-unreleased romantic comedy "Passionada."

What's surprising, or not, is that she has played all the roles well, say those who know her.

"What I'm struck by in Helena is how she is so committed but careful," said congressman Barney Frank, D-Mass., who has consulted Ms. Marques on several pieces of legislation. "It's easy to be a diplomat if you don't care. It's very difficult to find someone that is both a zealot and a diplomat. She doesn't allow her passion to impair her judgment."

Rep. Frank said he met Ms. Marques around the time she took over IAC. He said his office has worked with her since that time.

I think she does a great job representing the immigrant community," Rep. Frank said.

Ms. Marques says that what she does comes naturally.

"A lot of times, the immigrant populations are in fear of speaking about issues that are important to them," she said. "Being an immigrant myself, seeing what my parents have gone through, I can relate.

"Not too many people have jobs that they feel they're helping out the community. At the end of the day I know that I've made a difference. To me it's a very humble job," she said.

Ms. Marques works behind her desk at the Crapo Street IAC offices; dinners with politicians and her networking efforts have helped turn IAC into a \$450,000 agency, but it's her advocacy work that has made her visible in the community.

"She's deeply committed to the work that she does, and she's deeply rooted in the community," said Nancy Lee Wood, a sociologist who helped form the WISH group with Ms. Marques. "She has a deep sense of compassion and caring about what happened to her people."

Ms. Wood has accompanied Ms. Marques on vigils, meetings with public safety officials and politicians and has helped organize WISH meetings and other programs.

Ms. Marques' enthusiasm has impressed her.

"I think she has worked very hard to build up the IAC. That takes a lot of energy, a lot of faith in the future," she said. "It just takes a lot of courage to just forge ahead and implement a lot of programs."

Ms. Marques became the executive director of IAC at a time when the agency was under scrutiny and executive directors changed with the tide.

Today, the members of the board of directors of the organization think they made the right choice when they decided to name Ms. Marques executive director.

"She totally believes in what the center stands for. We have complete trust in her," said Edward Macedo, president of the board. "She deals with the board very well, she knows where the board is coming from. We work very closely together."

Mr. Macedo has been president of the board at IAC for three years, but has been a member at least since Ms. Marques took the job. He said that during that time he has seen her go beyond her obligations.

"She goes way beyond," he said. "She gives of herself beyond her time also."

Ms. Marques, who is currently working hard to secure \$150,000 in lost state funds, said she is as committed as ever in her job, despite the difficulties.

"I'm looking anywhere and everywhere for money," she said. "Now, more than ever, I

feel I need to do what I'm doing. When the immigrant population is being targeted like it is right now, people like me need to be vocal."

Ms. Marques' dedication started when she first stepped into IAC as a secretary.

"Because (IAC) was so small I did everything," she said. "I was like a sponge. I wanted to learn as much as I could about the agency."

Ms. Marques said at times, when the job seems to be too much to handle, the gratification from helping others has kept her going.

"I do feel with so much tragedy coming in, I see it on a daily basis, that I feel lucky," she said. "I don't take anything for granted because of what I see here."

TRIBUTE TO INEZ WILLIAMS BROWN

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 12, 2003

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a native South Carolinian whose love of family and faith in God have blessed her with a rich and full life. On February 20, 2003, Mrs. Inez Williams Brown will celebrate her 90th birthday, and in marking this important occasion, I believe it is important to highlight a few of the contributions she has made.

Mrs. Brown, the granddaughter of slaves, was born on the Blake Plantation in Colleton County. Her father, Burton, was the youngest of five children born to Sally Prince. At an early age, he married Mamie Daily, and they had five children. Inez, the youngest, was born on February 20, 1913. Before she reached her first birthday, Inez's mother died in childbirth. Her father attended South Carolina Normal Institute. He was an ordained Baptist minister and also taught school.

Inez met and married Willie Williams, also a minister. They began their lives together in Hendersonville, South Carolina, and later spent four years in Georgia. They settled in Charleston, South Carolina in 1940. They had eleven children. After the death of Reverend Williams, Mrs. Williams raised 10 children by herself with the help of her eldest son, Alfred Williams and a brother-in-law, Elijah Williams. Her dedication to her family is reflective of the strong commitment exhibited by many African-American mothers.

After all but two of her children were adults, Inez Williams married Mr. Ed Gadsden, who died two years later. And in 1981, she married Robert Brown, who passed away in 2000.

Mrs. Brown's legacy is in the family she raised nearly on her own. Her eldest son, Alfred, is the Pastor of Canaan Baptist Church with a membership of over 800 parishioners. Mozell Myers is a retired schoolteacher, and a leader among ministers' wives in the A.M.E. Church. Luethel McNeil is an insurance professional and an ordained minister in New Jersey. Mildred Williams is a schoolteacher and writer in Oakland, California. Lelia Mae Daniels is in law enforcement in El Paso, Texas. Isaac "Ike" Williams, is a former S.C. Field Director of the N.A.A.C.P. and presently serves on my District Staff. Ike's twin, Rebecca Small, is a speech therapist in Newark, New Jersey. Bessie Simmons is an Executive Assistant and Director of Quality Assurance for

Quovadx, Inc., an information technology provider for the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). She is also an internationally renowned poet. Gloria Edwards is a retired secretary for pediatric clinics at MUSC. Susie Manning is Director of Adult Treatment Services for Richland County Behavioral Health Center of the Midlands, LRADAC. The youngest, Leon Williams, is a retired Warehouse Manager for the Columbia, South Carolina Housing Authority.

Mrs. Brown has been active with the NAACP, the Senior Citizens program in Union Heights, and an avid Voter Education and Participation activist. This granddaughter of slaves has demonstrated with great fervor, her commitment to her family, her community and her God.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in saluting this great woman on her 90th birthday. Her unbounded love and extraordinary maternal sacrifice and dedication are legendary. This granddaughter of slaves has demonstrated with great fervor, her commitment to her family, her community and her God.

ON THE RETIREMENT OF COLONEL EDWARDS S. JONES, USAF AFTER 29 YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 12, 2003

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the outstanding career of Colonel Edward S. Jones who is currently the Comptroller for the Defense Commissary Agency at Fort Lee, Virginia. Colonel Jones will retire after 29 years of distinguished service in the U.S. Air Force and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his selfless service to both the Air Force and to the United States of America.

Commissioned in 1974 as a Distinguished Graduate of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps, Colonel Jones has served in comptroller positions at all levels of the Air Force: wing, major command, headquarters, unified command, and finally, defense agency.

Colonel Jones' list of prior assignments includes: Director of Financial Management, Air Force Reserve Command, Robins Air Force Base, Ga.; Deputy Director of the Operations Center and Deputy Director of Resource Management, Headquarters, Defense Commissary Agency, Fort Lee; and Chief, Integration and Accounting Branch, Comptroller Division, Directorate of Acquisition and Resources, U.S. Special Operations Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., and Executive Secretary to the Air Force Commissary Service Board of Directors, the Pentagon, Washington, DC.

A graduate of the Valdosta State University, Ga. holding a Bachelor of Business Administration degree, Colonel Jones also holds a Masters of Business Administration from Golden Gate University, San Francisco. His military education includes the Air War College, Armed Forces Staff College, Professional Military Comptrollers School, Air Command and Staff College, and Squadron Officer's School.

Colonel Jones' awards and decorations include: the Defense Meritorious Service Medal

with one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Achievement Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Air Force Organizational Excellence Award with two oak leaf clusters, American Defense Service Medal, Air Force Overseas Ribbons, and the Air Force Longevity Service Award with five oak leaf clusters.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, and Colonel Jones' many friends and family in saluting this distinguished officer's lifetime of service. Colonel Jones is the very embodiment of patriotism and it is fitting that the House of Representatives honors him on this day.

COMMENDING ISRAEL ON THEIR ELECTIONS

SPEECH OF

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2003

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, on February 11, 2003, I was unavoidably detained and unable to vote on H. Res. 61. However, I would have voted yes.

As you know, I have always been a strong supporter of Israel. As the only democracy in the Middle East, Israel is a beacon of liberty and a model for her neighbors. As a country under siege and in an almost constant state of war against terrorists, Israel also serves as an inspiration for the United States as we continue our war against terrorists.

HONORING THE FLINDERS UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA WASHINGTON DC INTERNSHIP AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 12, 2003

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and enthusiasm that I rise today to pay tribute to Flinders University of South Australia Washington, DC Internship Program. The Flinders University program is to be commended for providing five Australian college students with the opportunity to experience the American political process first hand, while at the same time, furthering the already strong relationship between the United States and Australia.

For the past six weeks, I have had the privilege to participate in the Flinders University program. The intern assigned to my office, Ms. Tamera Gale, has been an incredible asset to my staff and me. I have learned from her, and I certainly hope that she has learned from me.

Tamera is a third year college student at Flinders University in her hometown of Adelaide, Australia. She is majoring in American Studies. When speaking with her recently, Tamera expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to intern in my office. But as I told her then, I truly appreciate the opportunity to have her working with my staff and me.

During her time in my office, Tamera has assisted in the drafting of a resolution hon-

oring the long-standing U.S.-Australia relationship, as well as educating herself and others on the rich history of African Americans in the U.S. Armed Forces. The fruit of Tamera's labor has been passed on to my colleagues in the House of Representatives through my African American History Month Dear Colleague letters honoring the lives of a different African American military hero each day.

Mr. Speaker, we live in a good country filled with opportunity and good people. However, we venture outside of our borders all too little. The Flinders University of South Australia Washington, DC Internship Program provides Australian students with the opportunity to travel to the United States and view our democracy and life in our country. Equally, the program provides Members and staff with an opportunity to learn about the political process and life in Australia, a country and continent that too few of us visit.

It has been an honor to have Tamera intern in my office, and I wish her and her fellow interns good luck and fortune in all of their future endeavors. I look forward to participating in the Flinders program next year and urge my colleagues to do the same.

FEBRUARY IS AMERICAN HEART MONTH

HON. MARK FOLEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 12, 2003

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to help recognize February as American Heart Month.

As Co-Chair of the Congressional Heart and Stroke Coalition I am well aware of the seriousness that cardiovascular disease plays in the lives of approximately 62 million Americans today. The statistics are staggering:

One million Americans die from some form of cardiovascular disease each year—one American every 33 seconds.

Heart disease is the number one killer in the United States, topping cancer (549,000 deaths), Alzheimer's Disease (44,536) and HIV/AIDS (14,802).

Women in particular are greatly affected, with one in five having some form of cardiovascular disease.

Heart disease and stroke are expected to cost the U.S. over \$350 billion in 2003.

We should not be without hope, however, since cardiovascular diseases can be treated aggressively with a variety of procedures. Various treatment options include medicines for high blood pressure—a leading risk factor of heart disease and stroke, medicines that lower cholesterol, clot-buster medicines that can save the lives of heart attack patients and medicines that can prevent repeat heart attacks.

These means of combating heart disease are not cheap. This is why I have co-sponsored legislation in the past that will add more benefits to Medicare recipients, covering procedures such as cholesterol screening and medical nutrition therapy. I am looking forward to re-introducing the Medicare Wellness Act in the 108th Congress.

Even with the improved access to medical procedures and medicines, the American people still need to be educated on the issue of