

Hilary Kitasei came to our community a few short years ago and in that relatively brief time has made a lasting impression on her new neighborhood and on how the community looks. She first took on a rather desolate piece of wasteland at Fieldston Road at the Henry Hudson Parkway overpass and using her considerable abilities transformed it into a woodland glade that is a highlight of the neighborhood.

It was planted by the students from almost all of the local schools as well as neighbors and is now a part of the New York City Parks Department Greenstreets Program.

Setting her eyes on a larger project she is spearheading the development of the Hudson Scenic Byway Program to create New York State's first urban scenic byway.

Riverdale, and by extension all of New York City, is lucky to have such people as Hilary Kitasei. I join all of our community in thanking her for the wonderful things she has done.

CONGRATULATING DR. GLORIA BROMELL-TINUBU ON HER APPOINTMENT AS THE 5TH PRESIDENT OF BETHUNE COOKMAN COLLEGE

**HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2003*

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Gloria Bromell-Tinubu on becoming the 5th president of Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, Florida.

An educator and a community leader, Dr. Bromell-Tinubu is an economics professor at Spelman College in Atlanta, and was a former member of the Georgia State Board of Education. She is currently the chief executive officer of the Atlanta Cooperative Development Board, a nonprofit agency that serves as a catalyst in developing cooperative-owned business enterprises. Within 9 months as CEO, she obtained a \$1 million grant to assist the economically disadvantaged move toward self-sufficiency, and continues research that explores the use of cooperatives as a means of establishing economic security in asset-poor communities.

Dr. Bromell-Tinubu is a former member of the Atlanta City Council who has considerable community development experience, as shown by legislation she authored creating the Atlanta Neighborhood Deputies Program, a city-wide citizen driven code enforcement effort. She has served on numerous community development boards, including the Metropolitan Neighborhood Development Corporation (MNDC), which she founded.

In taking the helm of Bethune-Cookman College, Dr. Bromell-Tinubu becomes the fifth president of this private coeducational liberal arts college with a diverse student population of more than 2,700. Established in 1904 by Mary McLeod Bethune, the college is ranked among the top historically black colleges in the country. Most recently Bethune-Cookman College was selected as one of 10 colleges in the country to participate in Project Pericles, a program funded by the Eugene Lang Foundation to establish educational programs for social responsibility and participatory citizenship

as an essential part of higher education learning, in the classroom, on the campus, and in the community.

The Bethune Cookman College could not have found a more perfect fit to fulfill their goals and mission. I know that all of my colleagues join me in congratulating Dr. Gloria Bromell-Tinubu today, and we wish her every success in her future.

HONORING SPECIAL AGENT  
LEANNE G. CHARETTE ON THE  
OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2003*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I stand to join the many family, friends, and colleagues who have gathered today to extend my sincere congratulations to Leanne G. Charette on the occasion of her retirement marking the end of a thirty-two year career with the Internal Revenue Service.

When the average American thinks about the Internal Revenue Service, often they only contemplate the time, energy, and paperwork it takes to file an annual tax return. While the Internal Revenue Service is charged with the task of collecting revenue, they are also responsible for ensuring the protection of American citizens from fraud and evasion. Every day we hear the stories of corporations and individuals who seek to undermine the government through waste, mismanagement, and fraud. It is through the efforts of Special Agents like Ms. Charette that American taxpayers are saved millions in lost revenue.

Throughout her career, Leanne Charette has demonstrated a unique commitment to public service. As a Special Agent with the Criminal Investigation Division of the Internal Revenue Service, she has been an active member of several complex investigations. As a member of the Health Care Fraud Task Force, she worked with representatives from several federal agencies to identify abuses in the health care field which were used to help develop health care reforms. More recently, Ms. Charette worked on a task force investigating a massive insurance fraud responsible for bilking insurance companies in several states of assets in excess of two hundred million dollars. Her efforts helped to identify several problems with the industry and the results will go a long way in helping to establish solutions to these issues. More importantly, the task force has been able to recover most of the stolen assets which will be distributed to the victims.

Too often, we overlook the tireless efforts of those in public service. Throughout her career, Ms. Charette has exemplified all that a public servant should be. Her commitment and diligence has earned her the respect and admiration of her colleagues and all of those with whom she has worked. For her many years of dedicated service, I am proud to rise today to extend my heart-felt congratulations to Leanne G. Charette as she joins her husband, Dick, in retirement. My very best wishes to you both for many more years of health and happiness.

TRIBUTE TO DR. YJEAN  
CHAMBERS OF GARY, INDIANA

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2003*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker it is with great remorse that I rise today to pay tribute to one of Gary, Indiana's most dedicated and caring citizens, Dr. YJean Chambers. YJean passed away on Wednesday, November 12th at Methodist Hospital after a longtime illness. Her efforts as a distinguished educator as well as her numerous contributions to her community are worthy of the highest commendation and recognition.

YJean and her family moved to Gary, Indiana from Kentucky when she was a young girl, seeking a better life for themselves. In 1939, she graduated from Gary Roosevelt High School ranking second in her class, and then went on to earn her Bachelor of Education degree from Illinois State University. She also went on to earn her Master of Arts degree from Purdue University, where she received Purdue University's highest award, Doctor of Humane Letters in 1993.

YJean knew how important education was to all members of her community and therefore shared her gift of knowledge and enthusiasm for learning by becoming a teacher in Madison, Illinois. After two years she began teaching speech and drama at her alma mater, Gary Roosevelt High School. In 1971, YJean became a full time professor at Purdue Calumet in Hammond, Indiana where she taught communications and was appointed Assistant Professor of Communications in 1973.

YJean gave selflessly to her community in so many ways, including being a member of several volunteer and service organizations. She served as President of the Steel City Hall of Fame, sat on the Service Academies Nomination Board, was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Gary Community Schools, and was also a member of the Board of Directors of the Indiana School Board Association. YJean made history in Northwest Indiana by becoming the first African American woman elected to the Northwest Indiana Crime Commission and the first woman to serve on the Advisory Board of the Bank of Indiana.

Although she dedicated her life to serving her community, YJean never limited the time she gave to her loving family. She is survived by her husband Mr. Herman Chambers, and their son Lanel.

Mr. Speaker, YJean Chambers was a caring and committed woman who gave of herself in so many ways to her community. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in paying tribute to Dr. YJean Chambers, she will be remembered honorably and truly missed.

TRIBUTE TO JOSHUA PETERS

**HON. MIKE PENCE**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2003*

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I pay tribute today to Joshua Peters of Muncie, Indiana. Joshua is an Army

medic currently serving in the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment in Iraq. This soldier's recent unselfishness and courageous acts of aiding to his fellow comrades demonstrated true American heroism. The citizens of Indiana's Sixth Congressional District, joined by all Americans, are proud of Joshua's extraordinary actions displayed toward his fellow Americans.

Earlier this month, one of two Chinook helicopters transporting soldiers to Baghdad International Airport for their R&R flights home to the United States was shot down. The second helicopter did an immediate harsh landing to assist the brave men aboard the downed Chinook. As Joshua and his fellow regiment members ran to help the injured, they came under heavy gunfire without any protective gear, weapons, or medical supplies readily available. Joshua was initially the only medic at the scene and attended to the wounded for more than 2 hours. During this time, Joshua's thoughts remained solely with the health and safety of his fellow servicemen. "God, don't let anything happen to me that would render me unable to help these guys—help me, Lord."

Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to rise and pay tribute to Joshua Peters, a man who by his actions has demonstrated a promise to help defend America's freedom. Heroes emerge from the significant events happening in Iraq, and I am proud to say that Joshua Peters is among them.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great privilege to stand today and honor Joshua Peters of Muncie, Indiana before Congress and the Nation.

HONORING THE ARTISTIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF CLIFF SEGERBLOM

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2003*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life-long artistic contributions of Cliff Segerblom to the Southern Nevada community. The Boulder City Arts Council will present "Hanging with Cliff," a diverse selection of the artists works.

The works of Mr. Segerblom chronicle the history of the ever-changing Nevada landscape from his original assignment as the official photographer for the Bureau of Reclamation at the Hoover Dam in 1938 until his passing in 1980. Throughout this period, Cliff used a variety of media in portraying our environs in Southern Nevada, from the natural beauty that surrounds us to the feats of human endeavor that inspire us. I wish to thank Boulder City's most famous artist, and I urge all residents of Nevada to acquaint themselves with the powerful work of Mr. Cliff Segerblom.

RECOGNIZING VINCENT M. COULDRY FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2003*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Vincent M. Couldry, a very spe-

cial young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 60, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Vincent has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the 9 years Vincent has been involved with Scouting, he has earned over 60 merit badges and has held numerous leadership positions, serving as patrol leader, chaplain, quartermaster, and Cub Scout leader. Vincent had been involved with the Tribe of Mic-O-Say for 3 years and is in the Warrior Class.

For his Eagle Scout project, Vincent landscaped an area around Savannah High School and Savannah City Tennis Courts in Savannah, Missouri. With the assistance of 22 other Scouts and leaders, Vincent planned, gathered the needed materials, and mulched 78 trees.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Vincent M. Couldry for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO TIM MCCARTHY

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I rise today to pay tribute to the passing of a great man from my district. Tim McCarthy, a descendant of one of Pueblo, Colorado's pioneer families, was an enthusiastic figure who was known for his knowledge about Pueblo and its residents. His passing is a great loss for the Pueblo community, and I would like to take this opportunity to remember his life before this body of Congress.

After graduating from Pueblo Catholic High School, Tim spent a year studying Theater at the Pasadena Playhouse before completing a music degree at Northwestern University. Upon graduation, Tim moved back to Pueblo and became a dynamic music teacher who inspired his students to respect their fellow man. In 1957, Tim joined his father in the family funeral home business. He was a well-known art and theater enthusiast, and organized Tri-Hi Inc., a group dedicated to entertaining troops at military bases.

Tim loved to share his knowledge of Pueblo's history with others. On any given day, he could be found explaining historical events to his many friends and family members throughout town. Tim was a caring man who loved tradition and sought to keep it alive through educating his community on its past.

Mr. Speaker, Tim McCarthy was a compassionate human being who touched the lives of everyone he met. I am honored to pay tribute to a phenomenal soul who encouraged happiness and kindness in his community. Pueblo has lost a great man who exemplified the inner beauty that comes from a life-long pursuit of community service. My thoughts and prayers go out to Tim's family during this time of bereavement.

A TRIBUTE TO RALPH DICKERSON, JR. AND GLORIA DENNA DICKERSON

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2003*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Ralph and Gloria Dickerson in recognition of their commitment and service to their community.

Ralph Dickerson, Jr. has served honorably as the President of United Way of New York City since May 1988. As President of United Way of New York City, he has led the organization into the position of being the largest private funder of health and human services in New York City and as a major force in forging bold new solutions to the city's most critical human care challenges.

Under his leadership, United Way of New York City's revenue has grown from \$75.1 million to \$135 million, making it the largest United Way in the nation. In addition, United Way of New York City has used its extensive knowledge of community-based human service agencies to broker and partner with government, foundations and business in ground breaking initiatives that are successfully addressing the city's human care issues and the high dropout rate.

Ralph has held key executive positions for 30 years in local United Ways including St. Louis, Missouri; Madison, Wisconsin; Cleveland, Ohio; and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He holds a B.S. in Business Administration; and he received a M.B.A. from the University of Wisconsin.

Ralph and Gloria are the proud parents of two children, daughter, Maria Renee (deceased), and Ralph III. Their son, Ralph III and daughter-in-law, Michelle, have given them two grandsons, Cameron and Garrett and a granddaughter, Lauren.

Gloria is the President of Maral Enterprises, Inc., The Learning Tree, and Copy Bee, which she started in May 1988. Maral is a children's book distribution company while the Learning Tree, and Copy Bee are retail stores offering teachers, parents and children a full line of educational books, materials and learning guides. This entrepreneurial business came about as a result of Mrs. Dickerson's written bibliography and review of children's books mostly written by African-American authors.

Prior to this business venture, she served as Assistant Dean at the University of Wisconsin and Cleveland State University. She began her career as a special education teacher. Gloria holds a B.S. in Special Education, an M.S. degree, and completed her work toward a Ph.D. in educational psychology at the University of Missouri.

Gloria serves on educational, civic and volunteer organizations, boards and as a Trustee at her daughter's school, The Winchester Thurston in Pittsburgh. She is a member of several professional organizations including the Alpha Kappa Alpha National Sorority.

Ralph has served as a Director with several civic and corporate organizations and has received numerous city awards and honorary degrees. He was also inducted into the Alpha Kappa Psi Honorary Business Fraternity.

Mr. Speaker, Ralph and Gloria Dickerson have both made significant contributions to