

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO CHRISTINE RENEE RANDALL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Christine Renee Randall in recognition of her commitment to helping community members gain new workplace opportunities.

Christine was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. She is the daughter of two educators, the late Julius T. Randall, Jr., formerly a Director of Cooperative Education, and Ann Knight Randall, an Associate Professor of Library and Information Sciences at Pratt Institute.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts from Howard University, with a major in French and a minor in Public Relations, and received a Master of Business Administration from Hofstra University.

In 2002, Christine joined the Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation as the Director of the RITE Center, a community technology center in Brooklyn. The Center provides free and low cost technology training for a broad range of community residents, including adolescents, entrepreneurs, and senior citizens. Its goal is to help clients utilize computer technology for job preparation, entrepreneurship training, research, and communications.

Christine believes that 21st Century technology offers incredible workplace opportunities for community residents. She firmly holds that everyone has the potential to learn these new skills. Christine's expertise in marketing and public relations has already yielded fantastic results for the Center. Through new partnerships and outreach activities, she has helped the Center double its attendance in the past year. This accomplishment has already earned recognition and additional support for the RITE Center and the Greater Harlem Real Estate Board Development Fund.

Previously, Christine worked for the Draft Worldwide Advertising Agency and Madison Square Garden. Additionally, she founded Constant Interaction, a marketing consulting firm. She is a member of the Direct Marketing Association, African Americans in Advertising, and the Howard University Alumni Association.

Christine worships at St. Paul's Community Baptist Church and Concord Baptist Church where her family has long established ties.

Mr. Speaker, Christine Renee Randall is dedicated to her community. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable woman.

HONORING MARY CAMERON

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mary Cameron on the occasion of her being selected as a recipient for the 2002 Common Threads Award. Common Threads is a joint venture of the Agricultural Education Foundation, California State University, Fresno's College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, and AG ONE Foundation. The award is given to women who have made a remarkable and visible contribution to the enhancement of their communities with their time and/or contributions. Honorees must live in Fresno, Kings, Madera, Merced, or Tulare County. They should have past or present roots in agriculture while showing outstanding involvement in a variety of community activities in addition to agriculture. The honorees make a difference with their philanthropic giving while serving as visible and credible role models for other women.

Since 1965, Mary has been involved in hands-on management of the family's Atsma Cameron Dairy. Ms. Cameron was the first woman to serve on the boards of directors for Danish Creamery and Western United Dairymen. Mary's involvement in the community and her fascination in the field of agriculture have sparked the interest of many school children of Kings County during their visits to her dairy. She remains active in dairy and milk promotion and as an advocate for children's nutrition and agriculture awareness.

Mary is active in children's activities, agriculture education, and industry organizations. She has served as a President of the Elliott Elementary P.T.A. and the Kings County Dairymen, as well as Director for the Danish Creamery, National Dairy Board, and Dairy Management, Inc. Ms. Cameron was also the 4-H Dairy Leader from 1970-1973. She was named Kings County Dairymen of the Year in 2000 and Agriculturist of the Year in 2001. Mary Cameron is truly an inspiration and role model for many people in agriculture today.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor Mary Cameron for her exceptional service to the public and her dedication to the California dairy industry. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Mary many years of continued success.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THOMAS E. LOUIS

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Thomas E. Louis has exemplified leadership for the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local Union 18; and

Whereas, Thomas E. Louis has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Thomas E. Louis has been a dedicated and loyal spokesman for the International Union of Operating Engineers, as a legislative Representative and as appointed by the Governor of Ohio to the State Construction Compliance Council; and

Whereas, Thomas E. Louis is to be commended for his hard work and dedication to the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 18, serving in many capacities including on the Advisory Board, on the Executive Board, and serving as President; and

Whereas, Thomas E. Louis has long been a dedicated family man. His personal sacrifices of time and energy to family, friends and community are characteristic of a fine gentleman;

Therefore, I join with the many friends and relatives, as well as all the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District, in honoring Thomas E. Louis as he retires after 39 years of service to the people of the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local Union 18.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY AND LIFETIME SAVINGS ACT

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to submit, with sixty-three of my colleagues in the House, the College Affordability and Lifetime Savings Act.

According to the Department of Education, more than 7 million students will take out a Federal student loan this year to help finance their college education. As tuition costs swell and grant-aid fails to keep pace, students and their families are increasingly turning to loans as the primary mechanism to finance a higher education. While student loans make the college dream a reality for millions, they all too often turn into a nightmare of debt.

Over the past eight years the typical student loan debt has almost doubled to \$16,928. In addition, 39 percent of all student borrowers now graduate with unmanageable debt levels. Too many student borrowers struggle to make their monthly loan payments, and many must forgo savings, public service careers, and major purchases.

Borrowing for higher education should be a sound investment for the future, both for the student, and society. Yet, today we are asking far too many students to mortgage their future at too high a cost.

Unfortunately, President Bush and the Republican leadership in Congress have ignored the pleas from millions of Americans to make student aid funding a priority. Instead, just at the time when students and their families need help the most to make ends meet, President

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Bush and the Republican leadership have responded by cutting key student aid programs. Just last week, House Republicans demanded that we finance President Bush's tax cut on the backs of students by cutting \$4.7 billion in aid to student borrowers. This could force the typical borrower to pay an additional \$170 in student loan taxes over the life of their loans.

This is unacceptable, and we must do better by delivering sound legislation that helps Americans to make the college dream a viable reality.

The College Affordability and Lifetime Savings Act will help ease the burden of student loan debt for millions of Americans. The Act will change the current student loan tax deduction benefit to a tax credit—which will deliver a larger rebate on the interest paid on student loans to borrowers, particularly those who are struggling the most to make ends meet. The savings for the typical borrower who is earning \$20,000 a year will more than triple, to \$347, in their first year of repayment. The Act will also help expand this benefit to more middle class families, allowing them to claim rebates, too.

I urge you to support the College Affordability and Lifetime Savings Act as a means to ensure that a college investment remains the investment of a lifetime for all Americans.

RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND TAIWAN

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, my Colleagues and Friends of Taiwan, I want to take a moment to place into the RECORD a traditional oral expression or toast to the long-standing relationship between the United States and Taiwan. The republic of China's Twin Oaks Estate here in Washington, D.C., has been home to nine Ambassadors, as well as a venue for receiving guests of the Republic of China's Representative in the United States. It is a symbol of the abiding friendship between our two nations. Over the last six decades, countless Americans and Chinese friends and Ambassadors have met with members of Congress at Twin Oaks.

On the south side of this wonderful mansion stand one hundred plum trees. The plum blossom, the national flower of The Republic of China, can withstand below freezing temperatures. After enduring this type of physical duress during the winter, in early spring the dark pink plum blossom emerges and blooms, demonstrating a glorious vitality. And so it is with the relationship between Taiwan and the United States of America. No matter how challenging the problems are now or will be; our time-honored relationship will continue to blossom and display this type of resilience. In a larger sense, it will spring eternally regardless of geopolitical pressures.

So Mr. Speaker, the enduring strength of the plum blossom at the Twin Oaks Estate symbolizes our lasting friendship, which has benefited both of our nations for six decades.

IN MEMORY OF AHMAD R. OLOMI

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication to his country and community was extraordinary. Orange County, California, was indeed fortunate to have such a dynamic and dedicated community leader who willingly and unselfishly gave his time and talents to make his community a better place in which to live and work. The individual of whom I speaking is Ahmad Rateb Olomi. He was unexpectedly and tragically taken in an airplane accident over the Arabian Sea on Monday, February 24, 2003, at the age of 45.

Mr. Olomi was born in Afghanistan, and earned his bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Engineering and Technology in Lahore, Pakistan. He moved to the United States in 1980. He was hired by Orange County in 1984 and shortly thereafter became a naturalized United States citizen. He worked his way up from Engineering Technician to the position of Senior Civil Engineer. Some of the more notable projects he worked on were Seven Oaks Dam, the Santa Ana River Mainstream Project, and the Laguna Canyon Road State Route 133 realignment. Over his 19 years of service to Orange County, Mr. Olomi developed himself into one of the County's most talented and valued professionals.

In addition to his love for the United States and his community, he never forgot his original homeland. On the day of the tragedy, Mr. Olomi was on a six-month leave of absence from the County of Orange traveling with the Afghan Minister of Mines and Industries to help with the rebuilding of Afghanistan, and the construction of a transnational pipeline project that would pump natural gas and oil from Turkmenistan across Afghanistan and into Pakistan.

Mr. Olomi was also a dedicated family man. He is survived by his wife Roya and children, Yusef and Sahar. He is remembered by his family and friends as a man admired for his integrity, honesty, intelligence and selfless commitment to others. My thoughts and prayers go out to them for their loss.

Mr. Speaker, looking back at Mr. Olomi's life, we see a man dedicated to his family, community, adopted country and original homeland—an American and Afghani whose service led to the betterment of those who had the privilege to come in contact or work with him. Honoring Mr. Olomi's memory is the least we can do today for all that he gave over his lifetime.

A TRIBUTE TO CAROL YING

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Carol Ying in recognition of her dedication to improving the educational opportunities for the students in her community and enlightening them with her teachings.

Born in Jamaica, West Indies, Carol immigrated to the United States in January 1985. She enrolled in the fifth grade at a private catholic school called St. Augustine-St. Francis Xavier where she won an award for the fifth grader of the year. After three years at the school, she wanted to explore a public school and enrolled in Samuel J. Tilden High School. Again, she excelled in her academics and received a PTA award given to the most outstanding high school freshmen. Her achievements at the High School allowed her to graduate within three years and attend Long Island University. She was a Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP) student at the institution.

Carol was always fascinated with mathematics and showed exceptional ability in the subject. Although she started out as a Computer Science major, she would eventually change her major to Mathematics Education. During the summer of freshman year, she discovered that she had a passion for teaching mathematics after teaching a class of high school students. Carol was inspired by the many great math teachers she has encountered in her academic career. After graduating from Long Island University, Carol returned home to teach mathematics at Samuel J. Tilden High School. During her seven years at Tilden High School, she served as a dean for a year as well.

She continued to challenge herself by enrolling in a Master's program at CUNY Brooklyn College, receiving a degree in Mathematics Education. Later, she furthered her academic credentials when she earned a Certificate in Administration and Supervision. In the process, her supervisors and colleagues, who saw her capacity as a leader, encouraged her to do more than teach. This inspired her to pursue a position as an administrator.

Carol is currently working in the New York City public school system as an Assistant Principal at South Shore High School. She is also in charge of supervising the Mathematics Department. Carol is very passionate about her job and enjoys working with students and faculty to advance students' achievements in Mathematics.

Mr. Speaker, Carol Ying is committed to increasing the educational opportunities of members of her community. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable woman.

HONORING MAXINE MACHADO

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Maxine Machado on the occasion of her being selected as a recipient for the 2002 Common Threads Awards. Common Threads is a joint venture of the Agricultural Education Foundation, California State University, Fresno's College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, and AG ONE Foundation. The award is given to women who have made a remarkable and visible contribution to the enhancement of their communities with their time and/or contributions. Honorees must live in Fresno, Kings, Madera,