

A year and a half after casting the lone vote opposing President Bush's global campaign against terrorism, Congresswoman Barbara Lee has become the name attached to the anti-war movement.

When Lee came to the stage at last month's peace rally in San Francisco, she heard the chant "Barbara Lee for president." She has heard it before, and seen it on signs, from Oregon to Massachusetts.

That's a long ways from Mills College, where she graduated 30 years ago. Now a fourth-term Democrat representing Oakland and Berkeley, Lee, 55, gets all the inspiration she needs walking into her district office in the Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building in Oakland.

ON THE BARBARA LEE FOR PRESIDENT MOVEMENT

It's a humbling moment when you hear that. I recognize I have represented this area for five years in Congress, and I was in the state Senate and Assembly since 1990. But when you hear the shouts "Barbara Lee for president," you have to say, "Where's that coming from?" It's not coming from me. It's not coming from my staff. That's for sure.

ON THE "I TOLD YOU SO" TEMPTATION

On Sept. 14, 2001, right after the horrific attack, when I voted no, I knew then that it was wrong for us to give the administration a blank check. That was giving the president too much power to use force without coming back to Congress at all. I believe, and the Constitution requires, that the Congress declare war, that we engage in debate with regard to war and peace. So I would cast the same vote today. No second thoughts.

ON NO LONGER BEING THE ONE LONELY ANTI-WAR VOTE

I offered the Lee Amendment as an alternative with regard to disarmament and finding diplomatic solutions to our problems with inspections. We received 72 votes [Oct. 10, 2002]. When you look at the last vote on the use of force, we had 133 no votes on that resolution.

ON NORTH KOREAN MISSILES POINTED AT THE BAY AREA

During the debate on Iraq, some members of the Progressive Caucus really made the case for the missile scenario in North Korea and said, "That's where we need to begin talking about containment." I don't think the general public knew, because it's been "Iraq, Iraq, Iraq" from the administration.

ON THE SOLUTION

We need to re-engage. During the Clinton administration, there was engagement going on. For the first 18 or 19 months of the Bush administration, there was no engagement at all. Next what do we hear? The president goes to Congress and cites the "Axis of Evil." We must re-engage with North Korea, and we must do that immediately. It's a very dangerous situation—certainly more dangerous than Iraq.

ON THE PEACE MOVEMENT

This doctrine of pre-emption and first strike—Iraq is first on their list, and this is a policy that this administration is dead-set on implementing. We see Iraq now, Iran, North Korea. Who knows what country is next? I just hope it doesn't take hold, and that's why I'm so happy and delighted to see the peace marches throughout the world.

ON NAKED SPELLOUTS

I've seen the pictures. People are finding creative ways to protest. These women chose to express their views in this way. That's a manifestation of their determination to make their statement.

ON BECOMING AN ACTIVIST AT AN EARLY AGE

I was born on July 16, 1946, in El Paso, Texas. When my mother went to have me,

they wouldn't admit her to the hospital because she was black, and she almost died. I heard my mother tell me this and I was really upset. They left her to die on a gurney.

ON GROWING UP A CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST

I was raised in Texas and the schools were segregated. I wasn't allowed to go to public school. I went to Catholic schools. They were the only ones that would let black folks in. I can remember my dad in his uniform—he was an officer in the military—and we'd go to restaurants and they'd say, "I'm sorry we can't serve," and they used the N word. So I was always fighting for what was right.

ON AN ARMY BRAT BECOMING A PEACE ACTIVIST

My father is a retired lieutenant colonel. When I cast the one vote against the war, he said, "That was the right vote." He was in the Korean War and he's very clear on issues of war and peace. My mother too. They're my source of strength.

ON MENTORS

Ron Dellums is a phone call away. We work on issues together. He's probably made more of an impact on me than anybody, in terms of policy. He worked very hard to get this federal building here, and every time I walk in, I think of Ron.

RECOGNITION OF THE VISTA NATIONAL LITTLE LEAGUE

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2003

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, today the Vista National Little League celebrates its 50th season of serving the boys and girls of the Vista area. There will be a Golden Glove Gala to celebrate this special occasion. The efforts of the many volunteers that have contributed countless hours to the success of the league deserve special recognition.

During the past fifty years, approximately 20,000 children have played baseball with the Vista National Little League. Little League baseball gives children the opportunity to learn about discipline, teamwork, respect, dedication, responsibility, competition, character, and sportsmanship. Little League baseball provides positive influences for children and promotes lifelong friendships.

Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of the Vista National Little League's 50th anniversary, I would like to personally recognize the work of those who have served as coaches, team parents, board members, snack bar workers, and field maintenance managers.

HONORING LEO MARCH

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2003

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my friend, Leo March, who passed away last October. Leo was a successful entrepreneur, a devoted family man and a solid public servant.

Born in September of 1932, Leo suffered many hardships through his youth, including being stricken with polio and having to leave school after the tenth grade in order to support his family. Despite these setbacks, Leo was determined to succeed.

In 1982, Leo began his own company, Integrated Sign Associates, in La Mesa, CA. Starting in a small office, his business grew to include up to 40 employees, a satellite office in Van Nuys, CA, and a complete fabrication and installation facility of 18,000 square feet located in El Cajon, CA.

Leo was very active in his community and loved San Diego. He was involved in local politics working several campaigns. Leo served on the Mayor's Sign Force Committee for the City of San Diego, was an expert witness for sign design and planning for the California Supreme Court and served as President of the California Electric Sign Association. He was a member of an advisory board to the California State Senate Select Committee on Small Business Enterprises for ten years as well as a Panel Moderator for the White House Conference on Small Business and the director of the Boys and Girls Mental Health Centers. For over a decade, Leo was the Vice Chairman of the Small Business Advisory Board in San Diego and he sat on the Selective Service System Board Member as a Presidential Appointment for seven years.

Leo's efforts did not go unnoticed. Leo received a Commendation Service to Community Award from San Diego Congressman Bill Lowery. He also gained a California State Assembly Resolution touting his Community Service in 1991 and in the year 2000, he received the same award from the California State Senate. Due to his community service, the City of San Diego proclaimed December 6, 1999, as Leo March Day and the County of San Diego made May 16, 2000, Leo March Day for the entire county.

Leo's family was an important part of his life as well. He married his wife, Donna Jean, on November 27, 1953, and they had two children, Ronald James and Linda Ann. He enjoyed spending time with his four grandchildren, Lisa, Lori, Chanda, and Ryan, as well as his great granddaughter Nicole. Leo enjoyed flying and owned an airplane, a Piper Dakota. He was a member of the Gillespie Pilots Association and was appointed to the Gillespie Field Development Council in January 2001. Leo also enjoyed playing golf and other recreational activities, but cherished taking part in activities involving his family most of all.

Throughout his life, Leo March faced challenges with a positive attitude and a determined spirit. Leo accomplished many of the goals he set for himself and leaves behind a group of loved ones that admired his dedication to community, business and family. I ask you to join me in honoring the life of Mr. Leo March.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND CANON DR. ALONZO CLEMONS PRUITT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Reverend Canon Dr. Alonzo Clemons Pruitt in recognition of his steadfast commitment to his community.

Reverend Pruitt served as the Sixth Rector of St. Philip's Church from September 12, 1993 to March 30, 2003. During his ministry,

he made significant contributions to his community, church and congregation. For example, he helped raise an additional \$20,000 for the Endowment fund; he founded the All Saints Gospel Choir and developed a movie night as a vehicle for a youth ministry in the Parish and in the Brooklyn Archdeaconry. Rev. Pruitt also established blood donation drives and was responsible for the placement of Black icons in the church.

In addition to his congregation at St. Phillip's, Reverend Pruitt served as a Chaplain to the New York State Assembly and the New York State Senate, Adjunct Professor at George Mercer School of Theology, Dean of St. Matthew's (Central Brooklyn) Deanery, Chairman of the Diocesan Department of the Budget of the Diocese, Secretary of the Board of Managers of Episcopal Health Services, Chaplain of the Clergy Caucus of Central Brooklyn Churches, Chairman of the Diocesan Commission on Addiction and Recovery, and Vice-President of Recovery Ministries of The Episcopal Church. He was also a Member of Community Board No. 3 in Brooklyn and a member of the Steering Committee of the 81st Precinct Police Clergy Caucus.

While the Rector of St. Phillip's, Canon Pruitt received numerous awards and honors including: The 1994 Community Service Award from Brooklyn Gas; 1995 Community Service Award from Crown Heights Lions Club; 1998 Community Service Award from Bedford-Stuyvesant Headstart; 1999 Community Service Award from the City of New York Police Reserve Association; 2000 Community Service Award from New York Blood Center; 2001 Community Service Award from the 81st Precinct Police Community Relations Council, and 2002 Community Service Award from The New York City Police Department. Most recently, he received the 2002 Chairman's Award for Service from the Central Brooklyn Churches. In addition to this long list of community service honors, in 1996, he was awarded a Doctor of Divinity, *honors causa*, from St. Paul's College, citing career excellence in community service and parish ministry.

He also raised funds to help rebuild churches throughout the country such as St. Thomas Church in Farmingdale, NY, St. Paul's Cathedral in Oklahoma City, OK, and a church in Princeville, NC.

Mr. Speaker, with his numerous awards and community contributions, Reverend Canon Dr. Alonzo Clemons Pruitt has shown that he is clearly dedicated to his community. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable human being.

SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER ASSISTANCE TO INDIAN TRIBE MEMBERS, NATIVE ALASKANS, AND NATIVE HAWAIIANS

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2003

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 1166, which would amend the Small Business Act to expand and improve the assistance provided by Small Business

Development Centers to Indian tribe members, Native Alaskans, and Native Hawaiians.

With their native lands taken and having been relocated to the confines of reservations, the injustices of the past affect the lives of these indigenous peoples today, as many reside in economically depressed areas that make it difficult for them to make a sustainable living. This bill works to rectify part of this historical legacy, helping these communities to help themselves, by requiring small business development centers to provide technical assistance to businesses in these communities. Economic development and such capacity building would thus encourage their communities to grow and prosper.

All Americans deserve the same opportunity to advance themselves to have a better life. Our Congress should support efforts that promote the job creation, spur economic growth, and self-sufficiency for all Americans. That is why I, as Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, strongly support this legislation that would assist Native American, Native Alaskan, and Native Hawaiian communities.

RICE FARMERS FAIRNESS ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2003

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing the Rice Farmers Fairness Act. This legislation conditions the continuation of farm subsidies in the state of Texas upon the maintenance of rice production. Federal law allows for the continuation of subsidies to landowners who discontinue tenant rice farming on their land. In essence, this means that the subsidy continues to flow in spite of an end to production.

This is a "something for nothing" subsidy of the worst kind! As a result of this provision, there is a very real threat to the agricultural infrastructure. With landowners receiving subsidies in spite of lack of production, the entire warehousing, processing and "value-added" industries are put at risk.

As grain elevators, processors and others see a reduction in demand for their services because of the diminution of production permitted by federal law, they have a disincentive to continue to provide said services, services which must remain in place in order for those who remain in production to be able to bring to market the rice which they continue to produce. Thus, by way of the decimation of the infrastructure, this subsidy to non-producers comes at the expense of those who continue to produce rice. Therefore, the provisions of federal law which provide this subsidy actually amount to another form of federal welfare, taking from producers and giving to non-producers. These destructive government policies have particularly pernicious effect in Texas, where rice farming, and the related industries, are a major sector of the economy in many towns along the Texas coast.

My legislation is very simple and direct in dealing with this problem. It says that those who have tenant rice farmers producing rice in Texas must agree to continue to maintain rice in their crop rotation if they wish to receive

subsidies. In this way, we can remove the perverse incentive, which the Federal Government has provided to landowners to exit the rice business and thereby put the entire rice infrastructure at risk.

America's rice farmers are the most efficient, effective producers of rice in the world, despite the many hurdles erected by Washington. The Rice Farmer Fairness Act helps remove one of these hurdles and this makes America's rice farmers even more efficient. In order to enhance our competitive position, we should also end our embargoes of other nations. Congress should eliminate the burdensome taxes and regulations imposed on America's farmers. I hope my colleagues will join me in removing these federally imposed burdens on rice farmers by supporting free trade, low taxes and regulations, and cosponsoring my Rice Farmer Fairness Act.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to help parents of children with special educational needs by introducing the Help and Opportunities for Parents of Exceptional Children (HOPE for Children) Act of 2003. This bill allows parents of children with a learning disability an up to \$3,000 tax credit for educational expenses. Parents could use this credit to pay for special services for their child, or to pay tuition at private school or even to home school their child. By allowing parents of special needs children to control the education dollar, the HOPE for Children Act allows parents to control their child's education. Thus, this bill helps parents of special needs children provide their child an education tailored to the child's unique needs.

Helping parents provide their child with an education designed around the child's individual needs is far superior to the "one size fits all" cookie cutter, bureaucratized approach that has dominated special education for the past 30 years. This approach is inappropriate for any child, but it is especially harmful for special needs children. The HOPE for Children Act puts control over education resources back in the hands of those who know best, and care most about, the unique needs of children: parents.

The HOPE for Children Act allows parents of special needs children to provide those children with an education that matches their child's unique needs without having to beg permission of education bureaucrats or engage in lengthy and costly litigation. I urge all my colleagues to cosponsor this bill.

TRIBUTE TO THE WORKERS AT THE OCEAN SPRAY NEVADA PLANT

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2003

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the workers at the Ocean Spray Nevada plant for completing 1 million bottling hours without a single accident. This singular feat has been accomplished through the dedication and skill of every man and woman in the plant. One million hours equals 25,000 40-hour work weeks, and is a nearly impossible feat to accomplish. Every manufacturing plant in the United States and overseas can learn from the example provided by Plant Manager Paul Altmier and his entire team.