

programs, as recommended by the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy. First is the National Weather Service, which provides weather, water and climate forecasts and warnings to the Nation. The second group is operations and services, which includes all of NOAA's satellites services and its mapping and charting services. The third category of functions is research and education.

The bill focuses on pieces of NOAA under Science Committee jurisdiction, and does not currently include any references to NOAA's fisheries or resource management, which are under the jurisdiction of the Resources Committee here in the House. I am hopeful that we can work with other committees in the House and our colleagues in the Senate to pass a truly comprehensive organic act for NOAA, but for now we must start with this piece of legislation.

The second part of the bill is a three year general authorization for NOAA's line offices. The third part of my bill in Titles III–VII is a series of NOAA-related legislation from the 108th Congress that I believe are important programs to specifically authorize at this time.

I believe it is critical for NOAA's mission to be clearly defined so it can better fulfill its role in observing, managing, and protecting our Nation's coastal, ocean and Great Lakes resources. I look forward to working with my colleagues in a bipartisan fashion to pass this bill into law this year. This will not be an easy task, but it is so important to our environment, our economy, and our children's and grandchildren's future, that we must succeed.

#### HONORING THE MEMORY OF BARBARA W. WINTERS

#### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 14, 2004*

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the memory of an outstanding member of our community, Barbara W. Winters. Throughout her life, Barbara dedicated herself to the community and to making a difference in the lives of others. With her we lose an advocate, leader, and friend.

Barbara dedicated both her professional and personal life to enriching her community. With a big heart and an infectious smile, she worked hard to not only achieve her goals, but inspire others to do so as well. It is not often that you find an individual with the depth of compassion and generosity that Barbara demonstrated every day. I, as with so many others, consider myself fortunate to have had the opportunity to know her and to work with her over the years. I was always impressed with her vision, tenacity, and leadership. She was a role model for us all.

The strength of Barbara's character is reflected in the lifetime that she dedicated to others. Whether as a community advocate, educator, or, most recently, as the Program Director for Life Haven—a temporary shelter for homeless, pregnant women and women with young children—Barbara was always there to provide a strong voice on behalf of children, families, and the community.

Barbara understood the importance of giving back to the community and utilizing your tal-

ents to make it a better place to live. In addition to her professional career, she dedicated much of her personal time to community service organizations where her efforts helped those most in need. The YWCA, NAACP, Connecticut Association for Human Services, and the Urban League of Greater New Haven are just a sample of the organizations with which she was involved. Through these organizations and others, her good work touched the lives of many.

It is with my thanks that I extend heart-felt condolences to her three sons, Joseph, Mark, and Frank, and the family of Barbara W. Winters as friends, colleagues, and community members gather to remember her lifetime of achievement. Barbara has left an indelible mark on our community and a legacy that is certain to inspire many.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE FAYETTEVILLE- MANLIUS GIRLS' LACROSSE TEAM

#### HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 14, 2004*

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the Fayetteville-Manlius Girls' Lacrosse Team, which recently won the Class A State Championship title.

This team reached the state tournament by defeating Liverpool High School in the Section III final. They then proceeded to win their regional game and their state semifinal game, landing them in the New York State Championship contest with Brighton High School. In the championship, Fayetteville-Manlius was victorious over Brighton by a score of 13–7, granting them the state title.

Tri-captains Courtney Farrell, Kristina Twichell, and Elisabeth Christie led team members Kristen Greiner, Leah Giffin, Kelly Taylor, Julie Ondrako, Kaitlin Englert, Mari Stefano, Meggie McNamara, Katie Deblouis, Julie Papaleo, Casey Costello, Meghan Klepper, Kayla Woods, Courtney Mahar, Brenna Houghton, Katie Devaney, Kelsi Cleary-Hammarstedt, and Alex Johnston to the championship. Among these players were nine first team all league players, four all-tournament team players, three high school all-Americans, three all-CNY players and the all-CNY player of the year. Head coach, Kathy Taylor, and assistant coach, Sarah Averson, guided this highly successful team in all of their accomplishments.

I would like to express my congratulations to this championship team for their outstanding achievements and wish them the best of luck with their future endeavors.

#### HUD GENERATED SECTION 8 CRISIS CONTINUES

#### HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 14, 2004*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, in April of this year, the Department of Housing and Urban Development promulgated new rules regarding the Section 8 program which have caused a great deal of distress through-

out the country. Essentially, housing authorities throughout the United States were told by HUD in April that they were getting a retroactive reduction in their Section 8 funds for this fiscal year, and many were confronted with the choice of reducing rents to responsible landlords, terminating existing Section 8 contracts for tenants, raising rents on the lowest income people, and in other ways cutting back on this important program. As a result of the nationwide outcry, HUD did propose some measures to lessen the crisis, no doubt aided by the fact that HUD Secretary Jackson had to testify before the Financial Services Committee on May 20 and knew that he would be asked about this problem. It is now clear that the proposals that HUD made and announced on that day were somewhat helpful in some cases, but have left the crisis an ongoing one.

Paradoxically, while engendering cutbacks in this program—the largest single federal housing assistance program—the Administration has been claiming credit for a new initiative to combat homelessness. Conceptually, this initiative has a great deal to commend it, but any good it could do will be greatly outweighed by the damage being done by the Administration's Section 8 cuts.

On May 30, the Journal News of Westchester County, New York, ran an excellent editorial pointing out the great inconsistency in the Administration's approach here. Note that the date of this editorial is ten days after Secretary Jackson testified before the Financial Services Committee that he had resolved the problem—and proof that he has not in fact done so could be produced by dozens of other well-documented newspaper stories in various states. As the editorial notes, the Executive Director of the Yonkers Municipal Housing Authority “called the impact on Yonkers ‘devastating’”—referring to the Administration's Section 8 approach.

Many of us want to work with the Administration in alleviating homelessness and welcome new approaches that bring resources together in a thoughtful way. But pretending that we can do this while cutting back on Section 8 is the worst form of putting style over substance, with devastating results on those people in the country who are truly trying to help the homeless, and others in need.

[From the Journal News, May 30, 2004]

#### HELP, NOT HINDER

President Bush's homelessness czar, Philip Mangano, brought a message to Westchester Tuesday: Create a 10-year plan to end homelessness. What does Mangano think Westchester has been trying to do for the last 20 years?

Here's a message for Mangano to take back to Washington: Help, not hinder. Stop cutting back federal dollars that assist local communities in providing housing that prevents homelessness.

Mangano met with County Executive Andrew Spano to outline the administration's vision of a partnership between counties, local municipalities, nonprofit groups, businesses and the homeless aimed at preventing people from losing their homes, providing services to those newly placed in housing and redirecting some of the money spent on emergency housing to permanent housing.

Sounds wonderful—and we've heard it before.

Apparently Mangano does not realize the strides Westchester has made since, say, 1990, when the county spent \$40 million to house the homeless in motels, and when a

county-commissioned study set a goal of developing 5,000 affordable housing units. A recent update of the affordable-housing study showed how far Westchester still has to go.

We could use a little federal help here. As director of the Interagency Council on Homelessness, which coordinates 20 federal agencies, Mangano could provide it.

How about increasing, not decreasing, federal aid to the self-help groups and others around the county that buy and renovate abandoned apartment houses? And organizations that help people fallen on hard times to pay their rent and avoid eviction? How about restoring funds for the HOPE VI program that Yonkers and New Rochelle had hoped would assist in renovating older public-housing complexes? And how about reversing the latest federal cutback to the Housing Choice Voucher Program, better known as Section 8.

Spano's chief adviser, Susan Tolchin, rightly called Mangano on the Section 8 reductions. "That has stopped our progress and our continued progress in helping fund permanent housing for homeless families," she said.

Indeed, cutting the Section 8 program by \$1 billion nationally, which has frozen vouchers, is expected to cost the Yonkers Municipal Housing Authority \$2.24 million; New Rochelle and its housing authority, \$1.46 million; and Mount Vernon, \$914,000. That's money that low- and moderate-income people could use to make up the rest of the rent after they paid 30 percent of their income in this high-rent county. Peter Smith, executive director of the YMHA, which administers about 1,750 vouchers and has a waiting list of 1,200, called the impact on Yonkers "devastating."

It isn't just homeless or low- and moderate-income people who have difficulty finding housing in a county where the median price of a single-family home was \$545,900 at the end of 2003. Some police, fire, emergency medical and Civil Service personnel—all vital to municipal operations—are among those commuting longer because they can't afford to live in the communities in which they work.

The affordable-housing update issued in April called for providing more than 10,000 units of affordable housing by 2015. The county's Housing Opportunities Commission is charged with trying to make that possible.

Call it an 11-year plan. Call it an opportunity for Washington to help it succeed.

#### AMBASSADOR C.J. CHEN'S RETURN TO TAIWAN

#### HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ambassador C.J. Chen of the Republic of China. He is returning to Taiwan after serving as his country's chief representative in the United States for the last 4 years.

Ambassador Chen's record of distinguished public service to his nation spans more than 30 years.

The Republic of China has been one of our most important and loyal allies in the world.

Ambassador Chen has worked hard during the last 30 years to strengthen the political, economic and cultural ties that bind our two nations despite the lack of formal diplomatic relations between us and Taiwan.

Today Taiwan and the United States are friends, partners and allies.

Ambassador Chen began his first tour of duty in Washington, DC as a third secretary in the ROC Embassy in 1971. From 1980 to 1982, he was the director-general of the Department of North American Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Taipei. In 1983, he began a 7-year stint as deputy representative at the Coordination Council for North American Affairs, Taiwan's "diplomatic" mission in Washington. In the 1990's he was deputy foreign minister and later foreign minister of the Republic of China.

Mr. Speaker, I am sorry that Ambassador Chen and his beautiful wife, Yolanda Ho, are leaving Washington to return to Taiwan.

During the last 4 years, Ambassador Chen and Yolanda have brought Taiwan closer to Washington, being gracious hosts at countless social events at Twin Oaks, a historic landmark which has made a lasting contribution to the maintenance of the traditional friendship between Taiwan and the United States and to the promotion of cultural ties between Taiwan and the U.S.

We are grateful for the time Ambassador Chen and Yolanda could spend here, but we look forward to seeing them again.

And we know both the Ambassador and Yolanda will continue to make contributions to the betterment of relations between Taiwan and the U.S.

They will be in the forefront of the continuing political and economic development of Taiwan, just as they have been here for the last 30 years.

#### ART THERAPY FOR OLDER ADULTS

#### HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to emphasize the importance of art therapy, especially in treating older adults. In my work as co-chair of the Congressional Arts Caucus, I have long emphasized the therapeutic benefits of the arts. Art therapy is a profession that serves people of all ages with a means of expressing emotion and coping with life issues. Emotions are often difficult to convey in words and an artistic avenue can serve as an effective way to communicate inner thoughts and feelings.

The elderly in particular face many emotional difficulties including loss, isolation, disability, dependency, and concerns about healthcare and treatment. Gerontology studies have shown that engaging the elderly in artistic activity may improve health and quality of life by decreasing the incidence of depression, anxiety, medical visits and related medications.

In addition to the emotional gain and sense of dignity and self-esteem achieved, the elderly can benefit from art therapy in clinical ways. In seniors who suffer from memory loss or cognitive impairments caused by Alzheimer's disease and stroke, levels of function can be maintained and improved. One woman who worked with an art therapist was able to remember and depict aspects of her life that she could not communicate verbally. Others who

have difficulty concentrating due to dementia and disorientation show improved attention through the creative process. Cognitive stimulation and social interaction contributes to alertness and orientation. Art therapy therefore has many implications for health maintenance and cost-containment for the elderly.

Art therapists are master's level mental health practitioners, specially trained to combine psychology and psychotherapy with the visual arts. They work with older adults in hospitals, psychiatric, rehabilitation, community and wellness facilities, nursing homes, residential living communities, as well as in private practices and environments for younger clients. The American Art Therapy Association, founded in 1969, establishes national standards for education and clinical practice.

This week, the American Art Therapy Association is hosting an exhibit here on Capitol Hill called, Creative Aging: Beyond Words. This event will display artwork by older adults in art therapy programs from across the United States. The exhibit highlights the ways art therapy contributes to meeting and managing the challenges of later life, and cultivating the strengths of elders. Paintings, drawings and sculptures eloquently convey the multitude of problems confronting elders, and the wisdom of those who have lived full lives. The artists were guided by trained clinicians in the exploration of themes and content for enhanced understanding of personal issues, improved outlook and quality of life.

Art-therapy remains under-recognized as a viable treatment. Many older Americans are unable to access such services due to lack of awareness, insurance coverage and insufficient employment of art therapists. I encourage my colleagues in Congress to recognize and support the profession of art therapy and to broaden conventional thinking about services to elders.

#### HONORING FATHER ENRIQUE MENDEZ NORMA ON HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

#### HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a great man of our community, Father Enrique Mendez Norma who will be turning 80 this Friday.

Father Mendez was born in Santiago de Cuba on June 18, 1924, and spent the early part of his educational life at "Hermanos de La Salle." He received his secondary education at "El Colegio Dolores," a Jesuit institution in his hometown, and graduated with a degree in Arts and Sciences. On July 3, 1940, just after his 16th birthday, he enrolled in the Salesian seminary at Guanabacoa. Shortly thereafter, he was sent to Central America to complete his novitiate, marking the beginning of a brilliant career as an educator. Four years later he was transferred to the San Julian School in Güines, where he taught as a cleric from 1945 to 1947. Following yet another move to Aptos, California, where Father Mendez initiated his theological studies, he then relocated to Turin, Italy in 1951 and was ordained a priest on July 1, 1952. Later that year, he returned to Cuba and received a doctorate in Pedagogical Studies from the University of Havana.