

Support Group Commander of the 127th Wing of the Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Michigan, he accomplished another first, as he was the first African American to assume this role as well.

Awards and decorations received by Lieutenant Colonel Millben include the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, National Defense Service Medal, Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Award, and the Major General John A. Johnston Award for Excellence. He also received the State of Michigan Award for Continued Support of Vocational Education in 1985 and the Spirit of Detroit Award in 1987. He completed Air Command and Staff College in 1980 and Air War College in 1993. He is married to the former Jean Wilburn and is the father of Sheryl, Patricia Millben-Craft, and Lawrence, Jr.

TRIBUTE TO FRANCES PRESTON

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in offering our congratulations and very best wishes to one of the First Ladies of American music. Frances W. Preston will soon retire as president and Chief Executive Officer of Broadcast Music Inc., (BMI).

The business acumen of Frances Preston has exceeded only by her charisma and charm, and by the respect, affection and admiration her colleagues and peers have for her. She has been lauded for her empathy and for the gracious manner in which she treats every person, from the hottest star to the humblest worker. She is an exceptional executive, leader, role model, and friend.

With Frances at its head, BMI has grown to represent over 300,000 American and foreign songwriters, composers, and music publishers in licensing music and collecting and distributing royalties from play on radio and in television, films, ads and other media. Its artists represent all types of music and its catalog contains 4.5 million works. During her 18 years as president, its revenue has grown more than three times to more than \$625 million.

BMI has become an internationally respected leader and a unique success story as the entertainment industry has been transformed by digital technology and globalization. Sensitive to the changing world of music, Frances has focused on domestic licensing, foreign performing rights, legislation for fair compensation for writers and publishers, and copyright protection.

Frances joined BMI in 1958 after working in music and broadcasting in Nashville. She opened BMI's regional office there, and led her company to preeminence in the South, signing writers and publishers with roots in both country and other types of music.

In 1964, the year the Nashville BMI Building opened on Music Row, Frances became a vice president of BMI—reportedly, the first woman corporate executive in Tennessee.

She has often been called a trailblazer in the music business but Frances was also a trailblazer among women. She was the first woman Rotarian in the State of Tennessee.

She was the first woman to work with the National Chamber of Commerce. She was one of the first four women—and the first businesswoman—to be invited to join the Friars Club in New York and the first woman to serve on their board of governors.

Frances moved to BMI's New York office in 1985. She was appointed Senior Vice President, Performing Rights in 1985 and President and CEO in 1986. She is a member of BMI's Board of Directors.

In 1992, in recognition of the important role she played in building Nashville's music industry, she received the highest accolade in Country music: induction into the Country Music Hall of Fame. In 2004, she was also inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame. She is a lifetime member of the board of directors of the Country Music Association—one of only five individuals to be so honored—and has served as president and chairperson of the board. She is also a lifetime board member of the Gospel Music Association, where she served as chairperson and president, as well as a lifetime member of the Nashville Songwriters Association International.

Frances is vice president of the National Music Council and a member of the Board of Directors of the National Academy of Popular Music/Songwriters Hall of Fame, a board member of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, and a director and member of the executive committee of the Broadcasters' Foundation.

Frances' many interests and her expertise extend far beyond the music industry. A distinguished member of business and political circles, she served on President Jimmy Carter's Panama Canal Study Committee, the commission for the White House Record Library, and Vice President Albert Gore's National Information Infrastructure Advisory Council.

She has given selflessly of her time and resources to many of America's most worthy charities. She is President of the T.J. Martell Foundation for Leukemia, Cancer and AIDS Research and the recipient of its 1992 Humanitarian Award. She is an activist and a philanthropist who became involved in the fight against cancer after the disease claimed her close friend and ski instructor. The Frances Williams Preston Research Laboratories at the Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center is named in her honor, as is Vanderbilt's Frances Williams Preston Building, the focal point for the VICC's research.

Included among other awards far too numerous to list, Preston has received the Women's Equity Action League (WEAL) Achievement Award, presented to only five women each year, honoring her as one of "America's outstanding women in business and labor." She has been honored with the Broadcasters' Foundation's Golden Mike Award, and the President's Award from the National Music Publishers' Association in recognition of her contributions to the music and music publishing industries.

Preston was singled out by Esquire magazine as "the most influential and powerful person in the country music business." Ladies' Home Journal listed her as one of the "50 Most Powerful Women In America" and Entertainment Weekly placed her second in its Top 10 listing of "The Powers of Country Music." Over the years, Business Nashville, BAM, Radio Ink and Hits have listed her as one of the most powerful people in the music industry. In 1997, she was one of only ten busi-

nesswomen featured in Rolling Stone's "Women in Rock" special issue.

Frances has been a partner and strong supporter to those of us in Congress who care about copyright protection. She has vigorously supported the fight against music piracy and vigorously guarded against any legislation that would reduce the rights and incomes of songwriters, composers and publishers.

I am honored to congratulate Frances on her retirement and ask my colleagues in the House to join me in wishing her many happy years ahead.

PALESTINIAN PARLIAMENT URGES NEEDED REFORMS

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Palestinian Parliament for their leadership in demanding reforms in the Palestinian Authority.

By a vote of 43–4, Palestinian lawmakers overwhelmingly approved a resolution calling on Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat to accept the resignation of Prime Minister Ahmed Qurei and calling for the formation of a new government that would have greater control over the security forces, the authority to introduce political changes and to combat pervasive corruption. Yesterday's vote marks the emergence of the Palestinian Parliament as a check to Mr. Arafat's political power.

If the Palestinian Authority is to gain legitimacy among its own people and in the world community, the Palestinians themselves must take responsibility for bringing about needed reforms and for establishing an effective security apparatus to combat terrorism and violence.

It is clear by yesterday's action that a new power base dedicated to reducing violence and chaos in the Gaza Strip is emerging, and the United States must encourage and support that effort. I look forward to a renewed commitment in bringing stability to this region.

I am hopeful that seeing the success of this resolution, Palestinian lawmakers will assert themselves in the future to serve the greater interests of the Palestinian people.

CONDEMNING ATTACK ON AMIA JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER IN BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA, IN JULY 1994

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 2004

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, in 1994, a terrorist bomb destroyed the headquarters of the Argentine Jewish Mutual Association, known by its Spanish acronym, AMIA, killing 85 people and wounding 200. To this day, the attack on the AMIA remains the deadliest anti-Semitic incident since World War II.

I take this opportunity to condemn the attack on the AMIA Jewish Community Center in

Buenos Aires, Argentina on July 18, 1994, and to honor the victims of this heinous act.

The AMIA attack, which showed the same cowardice as the September 11, 2001, attack, tragically illustrates the intention of Islamic terrorists to bring their jihad against Western values to our own hemisphere.

Substantial evidence attributes the attack on July 18, 1994, to the terrorist group Hizballah, based in Lebanon and sponsored by Iran. Evidence indicates that the tri-border region where Argentina, Paraguay, and Brazil meet was used to channel resources for the purpose of carrying out the AMIA attack by terrorists linked with Iran.

Regrettably, the scheming of international terrorist organizations such as Hizballah and al-Qaeda are not confined to the tri-border region. Much of the Western Hemisphere is ideal for international terrorist groups to establish bases due to the ill equipped and poorly trained security agencies across the region.

Terrorism is their technique, but hatred is their ideology. The fight against terrorism must remain a top priority. Nowhere is this more true than in America's backyard.

While the case has been officially under investigation for over 9 years, the responsible parties have not yet been apprehended.

Massive judicial and investigative irregularities, destruction of evidence, and cover-ups have already distorted the long-delayed trial.

The biggest blow to the trial came last year when Federal Judge Juan Jose Galeano, who had spent nine years probing the bombing, was removed from the case. It was revealed he paid \$400,000 in State money to a witness in return for testimony needed to move the stalled case forward.

So now, the court is focusing on investigating the investigation rather than look into who was to blame.

Make no mistake about it, failure to duly punish the culprits of the AMIA attack serves to reward terrorists and help spread terrorism. Therefore, I strongly urge the Government of Argentina to fulfill its international obligations and its promise to the Argentine people by pursuing the local and international connections to this act of terrorism, wherever it may lead, and to properly punish all those who are involved.

Argentina owes it to itself, its people and the human family to conduct an intense, fearless and comprehensive investigation that will lead to the identification and prosecution of the principal criminals.

HONORING SHAFER VINEYARDS' 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor an extraordinary event in my district. This year marks the 25th anniversary of Shafer Vineyards, a family run winery that produces some of the world's highest rated wines from the heart of California's Napa Valley.

I have had the pleasure of knowing John and Barbara Shafer for a long time. Their history in the Napa Valley and the philanthropic contributions they have made in enhancing

thousands of lives of those who are less fortunate have truly been an inspiration to all who have met this remarkable family.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, if you do not know the Shafers, you should. John left a successful career in publishing in 1972 to pursue his dream of a second career in producing premium wine. He and his family moved to the Napa Valley and purchased a 210-acre estate in the Stags Leap District. The family began planting 50 acres of vineyards on the rocky hillside property. In 1978 their painstaking work paid off when John crushed their first harvest of cabernet sauvignon grapes marking the beginning of their winery.

Mr. Speaker, the rise of Shafer Vineyards is truly an American success story. In the 25 years since the Shafer family produced their first vintage consisting 1,000 cases of cabernet sauvignon, the winery has grown to produce 32,000 cases of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Chardonnay, Sangiovese and Syrah per year. Today Shafer wines can be found throughout the entire United States and in markets throughout Europe and Asia. The Shafer's have also set the bar for sustainable agriculture in the Napa Valley and throughout the world. By the end of 2004, their winery will convert to 100 percent solar power.

While the Shafer family's business has grown beyond their dreams, the values that they began with remain as strong and visible in our community as ever. Twenty-five years later John still serves as chairman of the board of the winery and his son Doug has taken over the day-to-day activities serving as president.

Not only do Shafer Vineyards and the Shafer family have an illustrious history of winemaking and responsible land stewardship, but they also have a long history of public service. For as many years as I can remember, the Shafer family has been a leader in ensuring the success of the annual Napa Valley Wine Auction, which has raised over \$50 million for community non-profit organizations. John served as the chairman of the 1999 wine auction, that year the auction raised \$5.5 million breaking all previous records. Recently John led the effort to build the Napa Valley Vintners Community Health Center which houses four healthcare organizations and will care for thousands of area residents for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I think it is appropriate that we honor and congratulate the Shafer family for their success in the wine business and their countless contributions to the betterment of the Napa Valley. I wish the Shafer family and Shafer Vineyards well as they enjoy and prosper during their next 25 years of success.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO SUSPEND THE DUTY ON CERTAIN EDUCATIONAL TOYS AND DEVICES

HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill to suspend the duty on electronic educational toys for children. This duty is, in fact, an educational tax on the consumer.

At a time when we as policymakers are focusing on ways to enhance education for our children, it is important to aggressively promote tools that are valuable in teaching fundamental skills. Penalizing the consumer for buying educational toys is contrary to the country's educational goals.

Currently, computers and toys enter the United States duty free. But electronic educational toys have a duty. This duty is inevitably passed on to the consumer. We do not want to create a situation where a consumer may be less inclined to buy an educational toy versus a regular toy, which has not had to absorb the cost of the duty.

The company leading the fight to eliminate the tax on electronic educational toys is a California company, LeapFrog Enterprises, Inc. LeapFrog is an innovative company and a leading developer of educational products, currently employing 1,000 people in my state.

I hope my colleagues will join me in this effort to end an unwise tax on education.

REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the commitment of the Republic of Cyprus to democracy, human rights, free markets, and equal justice under law.

Regrettably, this July 20th marked the thirtieth anniversary of the invasion of Cyprus by Turkish military forces. This illegal military occupation of more than one-third of Cyprus' territory is a violation of multiple United Nations Security Council resolutions.

To this day, Turkey maintains a force of 30,000 heavily armed troops in Cyprus. 1,500 Greek Cypriots and 4 Americans of Cypriot descent remain missing since 1974, when the Turkish military forces commenced a policy of ethnic cleansing, forcibly evicting 200,000 Greek Cypriots from their homes.

In 1983, displaying blatant disregard for international law and the sovereign independence of the Republic of Cyprus, Turkey encouraged the secession and declaration of independence of the occupied areas.

The "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" has been recognized by no nation except for Turkey, and the U.N. General Assembly has made numerous calls for the immediate withdrawal of all foreign military forces from Cyprus.

Cyprus' accession to the European Union in May of 2004 has given Cypriots new resolve to overcome the division of their nation and citizens. It will be a difficult path towards a united Cyprus that is founded on respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. But it is a path paved with the hope of a determined people.

Currently, the Republic of Cyprus is seeking a bizonal and bicomunal federation, reunifying society and economy, while granting each community the right to retain its own identity and culture, without military occupation.

Although a reunification plan was set forth by the United Nations, in April of this year 76 percent of Greek Cypriot voters stood in opposition to the plan due to issues of vital concern, such as security, property restitution,