

HONORING RALPH THEODORE BROWN, SR. ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to congratulate Detective Ralph Theodore Brown, Sr. as he retires after twenty-seven years of dedicated service to the Police Department of the City of West Haven, Connecticut. Through his professional career and volunteer service, Teddy has shown a unique commitment to his community.

Returning to West Haven in 1962 from four years of service as a Special Services Airman in the United States Air Force, Teddy settled with this wife, Carroll to raise their three sons. Joining the West Haven Police Department as a patrol officer in 1977, Teddy quickly moved through the ranks and was named Detective just three years later. During his career with the Department, Teddy has worked in the Youth Division and served with the Statewide Narcotics Task Force as an undercover agent. Too often, we overlook the incredible work of our local law enforcement officers. These are the men and women who dedicate themselves to protecting our families and neighborhoods. Teddy's own career has been recognized with a myriad of commendations and awards including the Medal of Merit. The West Haven community has certainly been fortunate to have such a dedicated individual working diligently on their behalf.

In addition to his professional contributions, Teddy has long been an avid volunteer in his community. From coaching "Biddy Basketball" to serving as a Commissioner for the West Haven Parks & Recreation Department, he has been a friend and mentor to hundreds of our young people. Teddy, who has served as a Deacon for over fifteen years, has also been an active member of the Dixwell Congregational United Church of Christ for over three decades. In addition to these activities, Teddy is also a founding Member of the West Haven Black Coalition, member of the West Haven Race Relations Committee, and a member of the NAACP—three organizations which have worked to build on the diversity of West Haven and create a stronger community.

Through all of his good work, Teddy has touched the lives of many. His dedicated service and unparalleled commitment to enriching his community has left an indelible mark which will serve as an inspiration to others. For his many contributions—both professional and volunteer—to our community, I am proud to stand today and join his wife, Carroll; sons, Teddy, Jr., Erik, and Shawn; grandchildren, Shane and Camryn; as well as the many family, friends and colleagues who have gathered to congratulate and extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Ralph Theodore Brown, Sr. as he celebrates his retirement. My very best wishes for many more years of health and happiness.

HONORING THE SYRACUSE ALL-STAR BABE RUTH BASEBALL TEAM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of the Syracuse All-Star Babe Ruth baseball team. On August 21, the team won the Babe Ruth baseball 16-year-old World Series in Loudoun County, Virginia, for the second consecutive season.

As Middle Atlantic Regional Champions, the Syracuse All-Stars competed against the best Babe Ruth players from around the country in the World Series tournament. Their victory is a testament to their hard work, determination, and competitive spirit throughout the entire season. It is also a continuation of the Central New York tradition for producing some of the best young baseball talent in the country, and the teams own winning tradition.

I congratulate the members of the Syracuse All-Star Team, their coaches, their parents, families and friends. They have earned the pride and admiration of all of Central New York not only through their victories but also through their demonstration of hard work, good sportsmanship, and fair play. The team's continuing success and their impressive back-to-back Babe Ruth World Series championships deserve the recognition of this House and the nation at large. I am proud that such a talented group of young athletes come from my Congressional District, and again I offer them my sincerest congratulations.

RECOGNIZING JACOB STAVES FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob Staves, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout. Jake currently attends Liberty High School and Chandler Baptist Church, and will receive his Eagle Scout Award on September 12, 2004.

Jake has been very active with his troop by participating in many Scout activities, earning numerous merit badges, and serving in a variety of leadership positions. He has held such positions as Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader, as well as Troop Guide. He has earned the World Conservation Award and is BSA Lifeguard Certified. In addition to these accomplishments, Jake is a member of both honor camping programs, Order of the Arrow and the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. For his Eagle Scout project, Jake once again displayed his dedication to service by leading a group of Boy Scouts to build and install a sign for Chandler Cemetery.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jacob Staves for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for

his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

REPLIES TO TOBACCO INDUSTRY MAILINGS

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, the tobacco industry distributes millions of coupons, surveys, and offers in the mail to its prospective customers. Sometimes, these customers or their loved ones write back. For years, these letters have been buried in secret industry files. As a result of tobacco litigation, they are now available to read on the internet.

Here are a few examples:

One New Jersey wife wrote, "Please do not send anything about smoking. My husband . . . does not smoke any more. He has emphysema as a direct result of smoking. He is terminally ill. He will not get better and will eventually die from a lack of oxygen. . . . [he] is only 57 years old."

An Arizona husband wrote, "My wife of 28 years has been diagnosed with terminal lung cancer, caused by use of your product. . . . She is unable to go to the mailbox, much less read your self-serving propaganda."

A son or daughter in New York wrote, "This is to let you know that you can never get to know my father any better—he died from emphysema because of smoking most of his life. My mother, who passed away four months prior to my Dad, and never smoked, had the lungs of a smoker because of living with him all her life. Don't ever send literature like this to me again. . . . You have my permission to use this in your advertising program."

A mother in Texas wrote, "I will be delighted to tell you about my daughter. . . . She lost her life to lung cancer at the age of 40. Caused from smoking. . . . Hope you think again before you send out such a letter. You don't know how you hurt someone who has lost a loved one. A grieving mother."

I urge all my colleagues to read these letters. You can find many of them on a new web site run by nurses called www.nightingalesnurses.org, and you can also search for more at <http://legacy.library.ucsf.edu/index.html>.

TRIBUTE TO ST. JOHN AME CHURCH

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the members of St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church in Jersey City, New Jersey. On Sunday, September 26, 2004, they will be celebrating 60 years of community ministry with a re-dedication ceremony.

St. John AME Church was founded in May 1944 and its members have served the people of Jersey City through their outreach to children, families, and seniors; their involvement in neighborhood initiatives; and their dedication to meeting the needs of the community in which they live.

They worked with the Communipaw Avenue Block Association and the Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy to restore the historical Rev. Dr. F. Webb Park, and they are a member of the Communipaw Avenue Block Association and Garden Club. They have developed a Spiritual and Social Plan dealing with fair housing, financial problems, and other neighborhood matters. They have been active in the Morris Canal Redevelopment Area Development Coalition Plans and have planted trees in local parks.

St. John AME Church has developed a Voter Education and Registration Project and Database, and is building a Community and Cultural Center for Senior Citizens and Youth. They have an Uplifting the Brotherhood of Men Ministry for fathers and their children, a cell phone ministry for battered women, an Outreach Golden Senior Citizen ministry, and are a member of the Today I Must Excel (TIME) program for Inner City families and youth.

They have a DSL computer lab for children and have developed an Adult and Youth Job Training Center. Every year they hold a Health Fair addressing minority health matters, an October Harvest Feast for Community Youth and their families, and a Profound Black Leaders Lecture Series.

Under the leadership of Rev. Charles W. McNeill, Jr., these outstanding citizens continue to fulfill the legacy of community service that St. John AME Church has exemplified for the last 60 years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me as I recognize these men and women who are dedicated to making our community a better place, and I encourage my colleagues to join me in sending our best wishes for many, many more years of service and ministry.

IN RECOGNITION OF BERNARD BARUCH HOUSES' 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Bernard Baruch Houses Tenant Association located in the Lower East Side of Manhattan.

As the largest New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) development in Manhattan—Bernard Baruch Houses provides homes for over 2,000 residents in our city. They also offer amenities that serve nearly 200 senior citizens and disabled residents.

The Bernard Baruch Houses Tenant Association is a well-known presence in our community, and continues its work to strengthen ties with its residents on a daily basis. This association truly exemplifies neighborhood cooperation, enhancing the opportunity for each and every New Yorker to live in a safe, affordable home.

The Bernard Baruch Houses has been instrumental in providing families throughout New York City with reliable and responsible services. Their buildings have served our city's families, elderly and disabled for the past 50 years.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bernard Baruch Houses Tenant Association

on their 50th anniversary, and join with my colleagues in the House of Representatives to recognize their service within the New York City community.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL WEEK OF ACTION FOR IMMIGRANT RIGHTS

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the National Week of Action for Immigrant Rights. Scheduled for Monday, September 20, 2004, through Sunday, September 26, 2004, hundreds of community activists will mark the National Week of Action by holding rallies, visiting Congressional offices, and hosting educational events throughout the United States to celebrate the one-year anniversary of the historic Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride and highlight the need for comprehensive immigration reform.

It has been nearly one year since hundreds of immigrant workers and their supporters traveled throughout the United States as part of the Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride. Modeled after the Freedom Rides of the 1960's, the 2003 Freedom Riders raised awareness about the unjust realities of our current immigration policies and urged fair treatment of immigrant workers. I was proud to introduce House Resolution 384, cosponsored by fifty of my colleagues, to honor the Freedom Riders for their courageous campaign and to encourage President Bush and Congress to enact policies that support the goals of the Freedom Ride.

This year's National Week of Action will highlight again the need to reform our broken immigration system. Advocates will urge passage of H.R. 4262, the Safe, Orderly Legal Visas and Enforcement (SOLVE) Act, H.R. 3142, the Agricultural Job Opportunity, Benefits and Security (AGJOBS) Act, and other legislation which would fix our immigration system while honoring our tradition as a nation of immigrants and strengthening our national security.

The National Week of Action includes a fast by students and supporters to highlight the need for passage of S. 1545, the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act, and H.R. 1684, the Student Adjustment Act. I am a proud original cosponsor of H.R. 1684, bipartisan legislation to open the doors of higher education to immigrant students who work hard and deserve the opportunity to attend college and pursue the American dream.

Throughout our nation's history, we have welcomed immigrants to this country. We should continue to honor this tradition and recognize the enormous economic and cultural contributions that immigrants have made to our nation.

I commend the New American Opportunity Campaign (NAOC) for spearheading the National Week of Action and honor the commitment of its supporters to ensure equal rights for all people. I encourage my colleagues and the American public to use the National Week of Action to learn more about our immigrant community and the need for reform of our immigration system.

IN HONOR OF MRS. KAREN COOPER'S 40 YEARS OF SERVICE TO OUR SOLDIERS AND OUR NATION

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Karen A. Cooper consistently displayed outstanding service to this Nation as she served the United States Army for over forty years. Her distinguished public service began in 1964. Mrs. Cooper will end her dedicated service to the United States in 2004 as the Administrative Assistant for the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations and Housing). Her insight and grasp of administrative procedures and knowledge of her job enabled her to insure the successful completion of all tasks with the United States Army Secretariat. Through Mrs. Cooper's diligence and exceptionally high degree of professionalism and technical abilities, she made a marked improvement in Army installations for soldiers, Army families, and civilian employees.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WILDERNESS ACT

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month we celebrated the 40th Anniversary of an historic piece of legislation, the Wilderness Act, which was signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on September 3, 1964. Since the Act's inception, over 105 million acres of our collective natural heritage has been protected under the wilderness designation.

This week, as we take time to recognize the accomplishments of the Wilderness Act, we must also recognize the work that has yet to be done. Throughout the nation, there are many more wilderness areas that have yet to fall under the full protection of the Wilderness Act—places like the Arctic Coastal Plain, Utah's Redrocks wilderness, and the Northern California Coastal wilderness.

We must continue our efforts to safeguard these existing natural habitats from human exploitation and development in order to protect threatened and endangered species and to ensure the long-term health and vitality of the entire ecosystem.

And I believe that as a global community, we must quickly recognize the dramatic impact that human development has made on our natural environment and work to reduce the human footprint that we leave behind on the world.

IN HONOR OF HERBERT JULES FRIEDMAN

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Herbert Jules Friedman, a man who