

HONORING CHARLES EDWARD
JOHNSON, SR.

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and achievements of an extraordinary man, Charles "Chuck" Johnson of Oakland, California. Chuck was a prominent figure in the communications industry for over 40 years, and worked tirelessly in that capacity not only to promote equality and social justice, but to keep print and broadcast media affordable and accessible to all. Chuck passed away on July 27, 2004 after succumbing to cancer, and is survived by his son, Charles Johnson, Jr.

Chuck was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma on October 21, 1938. After growing up in Missouri, he began his career in radio in 1956. He later joined the Air Force, and following his service time, returned to working full time in the entertainment industry, where he would become the first African American to reach several technological and professional milestones. In 1959, Chuck created the first Black teen dance show, and in the early 1960s, became the first African American not only to host a #1 nightly Top 40 radio show, but also to buy and sell FM radio stations. In 1966, he began producing the nationally syndicated SoulTime USA, and would move on to establish the first Black movie distribution company to promote major Black movies. In 1978, he would become the first African American to operate a 24-hour commercial lease access television station, the Soulbeat Television Network, airing music videos and community programming in Oakland. Soulbeat is presently celebrating 22 years of continuous programming, and has not only added live interactive talk shows to its programming lineup, but in 1998 became the first network ever to broadcast full-time live streaming television to the world over the internet.

In addition to the pioneering role Chuck played in the communications industry, he was an active member of the civil rights movement throughout his life. He not only served as the president of the local NAACP Chapter in Southern California in the 1960s, but as the West Coast Chapter President of the National Association of Television and Radio Announcers, was a leader in the movement to hire the first Black radio announcers in Los Angeles. Furthermore, his founding of Soulbeat in Oakland was historic not only because he was the first African American to establish such a station, but because Soulbeat was and continues to be a vehicle for the advancement of free speech and social equality.

On August 2, 2004, Chuck's friends and family gathered to honor his extraordinary life and the impact that his work had on the lives of those around him. Chuck was a truly unique individual not only because of the record of historic achievements that marked his career, but because of his commitment to using his voice to improve the lives of the people in his community and beyond. His legacy will continue far into the future, and his memory will be treasured by all who knew him. The Ninth Congressional District salutes Chuck Johnson for the contributions he made to Oakland, the East Bay, and our entire country.

HONORING LINDA WHITE-EPPS
FOR HER LIFETIME OF OUT-
STANDING SERVICE

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and great admiration that I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional woman whose endless energy and dedication touched the lives of all who knew her and many who did not. It has been one year since Linda White-Epps was taken from her family, friends, and community after a long and courageous battle with breast cancer. A tireless advocate and inspiring soul, Linda's message of strength and support continues through the organization she founded, Sister's Journey.

After losing an aunt as well as another significant person in her life to cancer and being diagnosed with breast cancer herself, Linda made it her life's purpose to ensure that no woman be "alone" in the battle with breast cancer. Linda always held a strong belief in the importance of sharing her story with others—to hide it was to allow the disease to win. She began Sister's Journey, a support group for women of color surviving breast cancer. She went on to create an annual calendar with each month highlighting the story of a survivor. The calendar serves a tangible and visible source of encouragement—sending a message of hope to other woman striving for survivorship.

I had many opportunities to work with Linda over the years and I was always in awe of her constant energy and unwavering commitment to her cause. She strongly believed in the need for awareness, education, and outreach to those diagnosed with breast cancer and their loved ones. Linda brought the battle to the community and to Washington. The American Cancer Society was just one of the many organizations for which Linda volunteered her time. In fact, she served as a lobbyist for the organization in Washington, highlighting the concerns of Connecticut and making sure legislators knew just how vital increased funding for research and education are—not only to those fighting breast cancer, but for those who had survived as well. Linda was also responsible for organizing the first Relay for Life event in Hamden, Connecticut—now an annual event that serves as one of the largest fundraisers for the American Cancer Society.

Linda's accomplishments and advocacy did not go unrecognized. Throughout her life she was honored with a myriad of awards and acknowledgments. Perhaps the most prestigious of these many accolades was when Linda was recognized with the "Points of Light Award" in 2002. Bestowed by the President of the United States, this special honor celebrates the success of volunteers and highlights the impact that individuals have on their communities. For Linda, this was a most fitting tribute. Her efforts have left an indelible mark on our community and one cannot say enough about the difference she has made in the lives of others.

This year marks the 6th Anniversary of the "Pink Tea", an annual "Celebration of Survivorship," where the Sister's Journey Calendar has traditionally been unveiled. This year's event will indeed be special as members remember Linda's efforts and honor her memory

by continuing her work. I am proud to join her mother, Phyllis White; her children, Dawn and George; her grandchildren, Dominique and Donovan; family, friends, and colleagues in honoring Linda White-Epps for her outstanding service and invaluable contributions to our community. Linda's legacy will continue to inspire and support those most in need.

HONORING JOHN BURTON

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, with great respect, admiration, and affection, I am honored to salute John Burton for 40 years of fighting for human rights and social justice for the American people. John has been my mentor, my ally, and my dear friend for many years and throughout my time in Congress. Although term limits have now led John to continue his fight in new arenas, his leadership as President pro tempore of the California State Senate will long be recognized as a powerful force in the fight against poverty and in the fight for fairness for all.

The Burton name has occupied a revered place in California politics for decades, and John has served with great integrity in the Congress and in the California State Legislature. The vast landscape of John Burton's leadership includes legislative successes to protect our workers, to provide health care to all, to ensure equal rights for minorities, to preserve our environment, and to improve education. That landscape has been shaped by his intellect, his conviction, his humor, his sensitivity, and his ability to capture hearts, even those of his opponents.

One of John's first acts upon returning to the state legislature was to introduce a bill outlawing poverty. This was typical Burton style—deep caring mixed with a brash reminder of our Nation's core value to care for those in greatest need. John displayed this fundamental commitment to justice recently when he spoke at a Building and Construction Trades Convention and stated, "It is up to you and me and others like us to make sure that when people are asking for a job, that job has decent wages, decent working conditions, and decent benefits and that workers get their fair share of the wealth of this Nation. It's the just thing to do, it's due you, and we're going to help you fight to get what is your due."

Sadly, John's political career has been marked by tragedy—the loss of his brother, Congressman Philip Burton, at the early age of 56 and the assassination of one of his dearest friends, San Francisco Mayor George Moscone at age 49. On the murder of Mayor Moscone, John wrote: "Those senseless events brought me face to face with grief, making me realize that friends are precious and life is all too short. We should remember to take time from our own activities to spend more time with those we care about, rather than so totally immerse ourselves in our jobs and businesses that we are always too busy to relate to people."

John's life has also been marked by great fulfillment—not only in his illustrious political career, but also in his family life. John's daughter, Kimiko Burton Cruz, is the light of

his life. They have traveled a wonderful journey together, and John is now the proud grandfather of Juanito and Mikala. Kimi, her husband Emilio, and their children are guiding forces for John, and will be a major part of John's future.

When you meet John Burton, you know you have met one of a kind. When you know John Burton, you have a friend. And, when you have John Burton as a friend, you know you have one of life's great treasures in hand.

John may have left the State Senate, but he will continue to be a fierce leader in our State, and in our Nation, on behalf of those who need him most.

Thank you, John, for your tireless efforts on behalf of so many in our country. May the wind be always at your back.

TRIBUTE TO URBAN HEALTH PLAN, INC. ON THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge one of the largest employers in my district, Urban Health Plan, Inc., as they celebrate their 30th anniversary. UHP has worked for three decades now to make health care more accessible to residents of the South Bronx.

Urban Health Plan began as the vision of Dr. Richard Izquierdo, who, as a private practitioner in the South Bronx, saw the lack of primary health services that the community provided to its residents. He decided to form a community health center, and in 1968, the San Juan Health Center was born.

Urban Health Plan was created out of the San Juan Health Center to offer expanded services and increase outreach into the local community. It has done just that, by providing affordable, reliable care to residents of the South Bronx. UHP offers significant primary and specialty care, in addition to numerous outreach and education programs. Because many area residents do not speak English as a first language, most of the staff is bi-lingual. Today, Urban Health Plan, Inc. has expanded to include three health centers, six local school locations, homeless shelters, and adult treatment programs under the leadership of President and CEO Paloma Hernandez.

Mr. Speaker, in an area where hospital services and preventative medicine are sorely needed, Urban Health Plan, Inc. fills an important need for residents of my district. They have helped thousands of Bronx residents address their health care needs without mortgaging their futures. I am glad to count organizations such as Urban Health Plan, Inc. as allies in the effort to improve the neighborhoods and communities of the Bronx, and I salute Urban Health Plan, Inc. for their dedication to the residents of the South Bronx.

I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating Urban Health Plan, Inc. on their 30th anniversary, and on wishing them continued success in the years to come.

RECOGNITION OF DR. HERBERT POCH

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment today and laud the accomplishments of Dr. Herbert Poch and congratulate him for being honored by the Dr. Stanley Nichols Pediatric Auxiliary at Monmouth Medical Center. Having served as the Associate Program Director of the Pediatric Residency Program at Monmouth Medical Center for 8 years, Dr. Poch has exhibited true dedication towards his work as well as improving the lives of his young patients.

A native of Elizabeth, NJ, Dr. Poch received his medical degree from Columbia University and upon completing his residency, he returned to Elizabeth and maintained a successful private practice for 36 years. While chairing the Department of Pediatrics at Elizabeth General, he led the department to merge with Newark Beth Israel Hospital's Pediatric Department to develop a joint residency program in pediatrics, which led to notable improvements of pediatric care in the area.

Prior to joining Monmouth Medical Center as a full time faculty member in 1992, Dr. Poch served as an assistant clinical professor of Pediatrics at Columbia. Having always been a devoted teacher, Dr. Poch continues to teach on a part-time basis at Monmouth Medical, even after his retirement in 1999. In addition, he retains his academic position of clinical associate professor of Pediatrics at Drexel University College of Medicine, in Philadelphia.

His love for teaching comes second only to his love for family, including his wife of 52 years, Leila, and their 3 children, Bruce, Andi and Lesley. This gifted and devoted family man, doctor and teacher is also the recipient of three Dean's Special Awards for Excellence in Clinical Teaching, as well as the recipient of the Drexel University College of Medicine Oksana Korzenlowski, M.D. patient award for setting an outstanding standard of skill and commitment in the clinical care of patients.

Once again, I congratulate Dr. Poch on all that he has accomplished, and all that he has contributed to his community and the field of medicine. He is truly deserving of the honor that has been bestowed upon him.

IN MEMORY OF MR. TRUMAN GLASSCO

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that we mourn the death of Mr. Truman Glassco, who recently passed away at the age of 73. I am honored to stand before this body of Congress and this Nation to recognize this wonderful man.

Truman, a lifelong resident of Boaz, AL, in Marshall County, was born in 1931. Known by all as a wise, humble, loving, generous and prayerful man, his significant contributions to society fell primarily in three areas: Christian

Fellowship, Community Service, and Education.

Truman dedicated so much of his life to spreading the Gospel through his commitment to the Alabama State Gospel Singing Convention and the Bethany Baptist Church. He was an active member of the Alabama State Gospel Singing Convention for over 40 years, serving in various positions including President in 1972 and 1989 and subsequently serving on the Board of Trustees from 1992 until his death this year. Also, the congregation of his church benefited tremendously from his service as deacon for 45 years, as a Sunday school teacher for 38 years, and as Choir Director for 17 years. As if this is not impressive enough, he also served as the President of the Alabama School of Gospel Music from its inception in 1986 until his death.

Mr. Glassco demonstrated outstanding leadership to the Boaz community as well. He held various offices in the Boaz Chamber of Commerce including President for 4 years and Secretary for 18 years. The Chamber further recognized his contributions to society when it selected Truman as their "Man of the Year" in 1987 and "Educator of the Year" in 1985. He was a long-time member of the Boaz Civitan Club, serving as President and holding various other offices. The Civitan Club recognized Truman's achievements by voting him "Man of the Year" in 1974.

After earning three masters degrees, Truman served 38 years in public education, 22 years as a principal and 8 years as Assistant Superintendent of Education. Snead College named him "Alumnus of the Year" in 2004, an honor which was accepted posthumously by his wife, Dr. Bobbie Glassco. Although he never had children of his own, he was lovingly called "Papa Truman" by hundreds of young people.

The town of Boaz, Alabama benefited tremendously from Truman's kindness and selfless service to his fellow citizens. I had the privilege of first meeting Truman Glassco and his wife Bobbie as a young boy at Antioch Baptist Church in Marion County Alabama at a convention singing. Many people can tell you that he was a "real Christian man who made a real Christian difference in an indifferent world." I could not agree more. My thoughts and prayers continue to go out to his wife Bobbie, along with his family and friends. Yes, Gospel Music lost a dear friend when it lost Truman Glassco.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KATHY GRISWOLD MCKEAN

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a sad heart that I rise to mourn the loss of Kathy Griswold McKean, the co-founder of Liberty Day, from my district. Kathy was recently killed in a car accident on her way to deliver a Liberty Day mailing. She and her husband Andy dedicated the past 10 years of their lives to bring the Constitution and the Bill of Rights into the hands and minds of students across the country, and I want to recognize their contributions before this body of Congress and this Nation today.