

Badillo (D-NY), Eligio de la Garza (D-TX), and Baltasar Corrada del Rio (NP-PR). Since then, the CHC has grown exponentially. In the 108th Congress, we have seen a record high of 23 Hispanic Members of Congress, 7 of them women.

In my district, the 9th Congressional District of California, the contributions of Latino organizations is stronger than ever. For example, the Unity Council, under the remarkable leadership of Arabella Martinez, has spearheaded the construction of the Fruitvale Transit Village, which is a model for mass transit, affordable housing, and smart growth. The Unity Council also has programs for first-time home ownership, English classes, and subsidiaries that employ a couple of hundred people in the Fruitvale community. As Ms. Martinez retires this year, she hands over the reins of the Unity Council to Gilda Gonzales, a former member of the Oakland School Board, who has served as an aide to two Oakland mayors and to this Member, when I served in the California state legislature.

Another example is Anew America, an organization founded five years ago and led by Sylvia Rosales-Fike who has turned personal tragedy into triumph in the Bay Area. After having fled El Salvador after her husband was tortured and murdered, she helped to found Anew America. The non-profit organization takes "new Americans," newly-arrived immigrants from Asia, Africa, and Latin America and helps them establish their small businesses. The organization teaches the new Americans about asset management, finance, and community involvement.

And lastly La Clinica de la Raza, led by CEO Jane Garcia has programs focusing on prenatal care, family planning, parenting skills, and youth programs. They have school clinics in almost every Oakland school with satellite clinics across the Bay Area. They provide free and low-cost health care to thousands of people in the Bay Area. They are celebrating their recent move to their beautiful 40,000 square foot structure located in the Fruitvale Transit Village, which gives them ability to provide comprehensive primary care to all their patients.

Individuals in my district are the motivating force behind organizations such as these and promote civic engagement among Latinos in the 9th Congressional District. People like Tulio Serrano, who came to this country under asylum, after his family was killed in civil war in El Salvador, and had to leave his homeland after several death threats. Through the Central American Refugee Committee, a humanitarian effort, he organizes people to vote, and links people from Oakland Area to people in El Salvador in order to promote education and health. There are also women like Tina Flores, who heads the Southwest Voter Registration project in Oakland. She is helping engage our community in this nation's democratic process. Others, like Ignacio De La Fuente, President of Oakland City Council, serve in elected office. A candidate for mayor of Oakland in 2006, Council President De La Fuente has been instrumental in lowering gang violence, restoring economic development in Fruitvale, and in securing funding for job resource centers for day workers.

Latino members of the clergy are also helping in our community, including Father Antonio Valdivia, Pastor of St. Luis Bertrand Parish in Oakland. He is also a strong leader of Oak-

land Coalition of Congregations, Father Tony works to raise immigrant's awareness of community issues and encourages his parishioners to register and vote. Another leader is Father Marco Figueroa, Pastor of St. Elizabeth's Church, which puts on health education seminars, operates clinics and assists in the establishment of new organizations that are vital to the community.

As a Representative from California, I cannot fail to mention the over 12 million Latinos that make California the state with most Latinos in the nation. As many experts speak of the Latino population boom that this country will see in the future, California has been prospering from its growth in the Latino community for many years now. While Latinos grow in population in the United States, they continue to be left behind when it comes to education, health care, jobs, and immigration. We must make sure that we do not leave our new fellow Americans behind. We must ensure that as the Latino population in America grows, we expand their access to a good education, proper health care, and equal access to the workforce.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like my colleagues to remember the contributions of Latinos to this nation during Hispanic Heritage Month and throughout the year, especially as they consider legislation that affect this great, diverse community which continues to make America the best it can be.

HONORING JOSEPH NICOLA  
DELAURO, FOUNDING DIRECTOR  
EMERITUS OF THE SCHOOL OF  
VISUAL ARTS OF THE UNIVER-  
SITY OF WINDSOR

### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 8, 2004*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to extend my sincere congratulations to my uncle, Joseph Nicola DeLauro. He was recently honored by the University of Windsor in Ontario, Canada, as they named him Founding Director Emeritus of the School of Visual Arts—the first such title the University has bestowed.

Born in New Haven, CT, Joe DeLauro attended Yale University where he received his Bachelors Degree and later gained his Masters at the University of Iowa. He is a sculptor perhaps best known for his work depicting archetypal figures from the far past and the Bible. Much of his work, including crucifixions, pietas, virgins, baptismal fonts, stone reliefs, and stained glass windows have been commissioned by churches, convents, schools, and other largely religious institutions. However, you can also find many pieces throughout the public spaces in his home of Canton, MI, and in private collections throughout the world.

Internationally recognized for his talent, he has been honored by organizations in the United States, England and Italy. Exhibitions of his work have been displayed in New York, Italy, and Canada. But perhaps his most important contribution has been through his work as a teacher. I have often spoke of the need of talented, creative educators ready to help young people learn and grow. This is espe-

cially true for the Fine Arts, where the talent of young artists must be nurtured and encouraged for them to realize their dreams.

A Professor of Art at both Marygrove College and the University of Detroit in Detroit, MI, as well, Joe DeLauro spent the majority of his career as an educator at the University of Windsor. He came to the University in 1960 where he began Windsor's Fine Arts Department. Through his efforts as head of the Department, he gained for the institution its right to grant a bachelor of fine arts degree—the first degree-granting privilege of its kind to be granted to an Ontario university. For this accomplishment, he was credited with the founding of Windsor's School of Visual Arts. In his 25-year-career with the University of Ontario, he helped to shepherd hundreds of students through the demanding maze of discipline, taste, and scholarship and on to their own careers. Mentor, friend, and educator—there is no better example of what a teacher should be.

To be bestowed with the title Founding Director Emeritus is a reflection of the respect, gratitude, and appreciation Joe DeLauro earned throughout his career at the University of Windsor. His extraordinary artistic and academic career has left an indelible mark on the University and his spirit will forever live on through the School of Visual Arts—a legacy that will touch and inspire thousands for generations to come. I am proud to stand today and join his wife, Dorothy; children, Kathleen, Gregory, and Bob; family, friends, and colleagues to extend my sincere congratulations to Joseph Nicola DeLauro on this very special occasion.

INTRODUCTION OF COORDINATED  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH NET-  
WORK

### HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 8, 2004*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, environmental contaminants have been linked to birth defects, developmental delays, and many chronic diseases including asthma, various forms of cancer, and neurological disorders like Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, and Multiple Sclerosis.

Research shows that women and children are at especially high risk for health problems related to environmental factors. Each year, 4 percent of all births—more than 150,000 babies—are born with significant birth defects. The number of children with asthma has doubled in the past 15 years to about 5 million. And more than 8,000 children are diagnosed with cancer every year.

We do not understand the long-term health effects of the vast majority of the approximately 80,000 chemicals have been released into the environment over the past 50 years and the more than 7 billion pounds of chemicals that are released each year by industrial facilities in the United States. While many chemicals do not cause damage, we need to know which ones do.

In my hometown of San Francisco, breast cancer rates are more than 12 percent higher than they were 15 years ago. These rates are significantly higher than the rest of the nation, and public health officials are searching for

answers. We must understand what could be causing such a dramatic rise, especially when three out of four women who are diagnosed with breast cancer have no family history of cancer or other known risk factors. For these women, environmental factors may be the link to their cancer.

Improved infrastructure that enables local, state, and Federal public health agencies to monitor disease rates and environmental hazards is needed. However, there is no system in place that explores the relationship between disease and potentially associated environmental factors.

Today, I am joined by Representatives STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES and LOUISE SLAUGHTER, and Senators HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, HARRY REID, and LINCOLN CHAFEE, in introducing the Coordinated Environmental Health Network Act to respond to this urgent need by creating the infrastructure necessary to collect, analyze, and report data on the rate of disease and the presence of relevant environmental factors and exposures.

The Network would also coordinate national, state, and local efforts to bolster our public health system's capacity to investigate and respond aggressively to environmental exposures that threaten health. In addition, the Coordinated Environmental Health Network will alert health officials when there is a sudden increase in any disease or condition, including those associated with a biological or chemical attack.

Over the past 3 years, my colleagues and I have worked to secure more than \$73 million for pilot programs to begin developing the capacity for a Coordinated Environmental Health Network, with an additional \$28 million pending in the Fiscal Year 2005 Labor-Health and Human Services-Education Appropriations bill. These pilot projects are giving the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Environmental Protection Agency the information they need to put in place a comprehensive, coordinated network.

Once fully operational, the network will coordinate national, state, and local efforts to inform communities, public health officials, researchers, and policymakers of potential environmental health risks, and to integrate this information with other parts of the public health system.

This is really an issue of environmental justice. Minority and low-income communities are particularly vulnerable to environmental health hazards. The factories and dumping sites that emit pollutants are often located near communities with little political and economic power, and therefore less ability to protest. The result is an elevated risk of exposure to harmful substances.

Numerous public health and environmental organizations understand the need for an improved response to these threats, and the Coordinated Environmental Health Network Act is supported by the Trust for America's Health, American Public Health Association, Citizens for a Cleaner Environment, March of Dimes, American Lung Association, U.S. Public Interest Research Group, The Breast Cancer Fund, Physicians for Social Responsibility, and many others.

We must respond to these health threats in a comprehensive and coordinated manner. To take action to prevent disease we must understand its cause. I look forward to working with my colleagues to enact this vital legislation.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 510, I was in my congressional district on official business. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

#### IN RECOGNITION OF DORA BELLE THOMAS STONE

### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dora Belle Thomas Stone of Lee County, Alabama, in anticipation of her 100th birthday on November 8, 2004.

Born in Chilton County, Alabama, on November 8, 1904, Mrs. Stone is the daughter of the late George W. and Phairby Adeline Headly Thomas. In 1918, Mrs. Stone moved to Phenix City, Alabama, where she married William Henry Stone on October 21, 1921. She is the mother of four children: William Earl Stone, Thomas Milton Stone, George Lamar Stone, and Barbara Anne Stone Ennis. She has eight grandchildren and ten great grandchildren.

Mrs. Stone is a retired music teacher who taught Sunday school for more than 60 years, and is a member of Smiths Station Baptist Church. She says she cherishes most her family, her church, and God's Word, and studies her Bible every day.

It's not often we have the opportunity to recognize the life and accomplishments of a citizen like Mrs. Stone, and I appreciate the House's attention on this important occasion.

#### COMMENDING THE CENTER FOR NATIONAL POLICY FOR FACILITATING A DIALOGUE BETWEEN MEMBERS OF THE ARAB AND MUSLIM DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITIES

### HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the Center for National Policy (CNP) for facilitating a dialogue between members of the Arab and Muslim diplomatic communities and legislators on the Hill.

On September 8th of this year, the Center for National Policy hosted a discussion between the Honorable JIM TURNER and members of the Arab and Muslim diplomatic communities as a way of re-framing the debate on the War on Terrorism. I applaud the CNP for their continued efforts to properly inform both the American public and their elected officials on the complex issues facing policymakers.

I would like to commend Representative TURNER and my former colleague Tim Roemer for their participation in this invaluable discussion and for their active interest in fostering a

better relationship with minority communities both domestically and abroad.

#### TO WIN THE WAR ON TERROR

A DISCUSSION WITH THE HONORABLE JIM TURNER AND MEMBERS OF THE ARAB AND MUSLIM DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITIES—MODERATED BY TIM ROEMER

#### About the Event

This event is part of a series of discussions being organized by the Center for National Policy to help reframe the debate on the War on Terrorism. CNP seeks to deepen both the public's and elected officials' understanding of the complex issues involved in the growth and spread of radical Islam, and to increase awareness of initiatives that promise to advance moderation and constructive reform.

To accomplish these goals, CNP organizes small group discussions that bring together prominent policy experts, elected officials, and public opinion specialists to explore new strategies to address both immediate and long-term threats. CNP drafts summaries of these conversations and makes them available to lawmakers on Capitol Hill and policymakers in the Executive Branch, as well as academics, journalists, and the public at large.

#### About CNP

The Center for National Policy (CNP) is a non-profit, non-partisan public policy organization located in Washington, DC. Founded in 1981, the Center's mission is to engage national leaders with new policy options and innovative programs designed to advance progressive ideas in the interest of all Americans.

The goal of the Center is to promote the transfer of ideas and information from experts to public officials, and therefore better serve American citizens and the public interest.

Working with a small core staff, CNP brings together policymakers and experts from a range of organizations, including other think tanks, business, labor and academia, to encourage new thinking, promote public awareness and catalyze action.

The Center uses public opinion research, as well as substantive and political analysis, to frame options and make recommendations. The Center's programs include active media outreach and extensive use of the web as well as more traditional methods of dissemination.

In October 2003, Timothy J. Roemer was named President of CNP. Formerly a seven-term member of Congress from Indiana, he most recently has served as a member of the bipartisan 9/11 Commission. His predecessors as president include Madeleine K. Albright, prior to her service as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations; the late Kirk O'Donnell, who was chief counsel to the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Thomas P. 'Tip' O'Neill, and Maureen S. Steinbruner, currently serving as CNP Vice President and Senior Policy Advisor.

#### Introduction

It has been clear for some time that winning the war on terror is not only a military and security challenge. With numerous al Qaeda leaders captured or killed, the threat is now more diffuse but just as deadly. Increasingly the question is, are we taking more terrorists out of the picture than are being created every day in the streets and madrassas all over the Arab and Muslim worlds?

The United States needs a strategy for winning the war that both deals with today's terrorists but also, most importantly, works to deter and suppress the growth and power of tomorrow's. U.S. Representative Jim Turner, Ranking Member of the Select Committee on Homeland Security, put forward a