

Beah Richards pioneered a trail for African Americans in the film community. She was one of the original foot soldiers in the fight for African Americans and women in film and for this she deserves recognition.

COMMENDING CRANSTON HIGH SCHOOL WEST'S COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2004

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the students of Cranston High School West for their incredible devotion to combating hunger in the State of Rhode Island. The Student Council decided this school year to once again participate in "The Feinstein Youth Hunger Brigade Program." This State-wide program encourages school-children to collect non-perishable food items, distribute them to a local agency, and raise awareness of the problem of hunger in their community.

The students of Cranston High School West have decided to collect food items for the Comprehensive Community Action Program for the second consecutive year. This worthy program assists between 500 and 600 families in immediate crisis in the Cranston community. The students at Cranston West raised money at football games, held food drives in their homerooms, and bought non-perishable food items. They even started a newsletter to illustrate their efforts and increase awareness of hunger. Their December donation to the Comprehensive Community Action Program, totaling 2,258 items, nearly doubled the largest donation from the previous year. For their dedication to combating hunger in their own community, I commend the students of Cranston High School West and wish them great success in providing an equally impressive donation in April.

TRIBUTE TO WBGO, JAZZ 88

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize a valued institution in my home city of Newark, New Jersey, WBGO Jazz 88, as they celebrate 25 years of service to our community. Founded in a time when there were no New Jersey-based public radio stations, WBGO recognized the opportunity to use public radio as a means of engaging the community and raising cultural awareness. They saw that they could play a role in uniting people who were divided from years of racial and social unrest, as well as helping to rebuild a city that was in great need of revitalization.

Newark Public Radio is one of 12 New Jersey cultural organizations that has been designated a "Major Impact" arts organization by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. WBGO has been awarded this distinction for each of the past thirteen years. Within public radio, WBGO is regarded as a leader for its ground-breaking work in community and vol-

unteer involvement, special events, and the presentation of jazz (including collaboration with local artists).

WBGO has made it their mission "to champion jazz . . . through radio, other technology, and events." Through education and entertainment, they preserve the rich heritage and cultural achievements of jazz, ensuring its place as an institution of American culture.

Jazz music has been shaped by multiple influences and cultural experiences—a fusion of European and Caribbean elements—but has emerged as a uniquely American art form. Embedded in the African-American experience, jazz tells a story of the American experiment from a new perspective.

WBGO Jazz 88 brings this story to 15 of the 21 counties of New Jersey, all five boroughs of New York, and portions of Connecticut, reaching an estimated 405,000 listeners each and every week.

I salute WBGO for their dedication to the arts, to public radio, to our community, and to jazz. I am proud to have them in my district, and I wish them continued success as they endeavor to bring the truly magical, truly American legacy of jazz to the 21st Century.

HONORING MARJORIE MURPHY ON BEING NAMED THE COHASSET MARINER'S CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2004

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Marjorie Murphy, who has recently been named Citizen of the Year by the Cohasset Mariner, a respected newspaper on the South Shore of Boston, MA. Marjie, as she is affectionately known, has made a positive impact on the lives of families throughout the area for 30 years. Originally a first grade teacher, she soon realized her true passion was introducing youngsters to the wonder of a good book. For the next quarter-century, Marjie touched countless lives as a librarian at Deer Hill Elementary School in Cohasset.

With her lifetime of public service in mind, Mr. Speaker, I submit to my colleagues this Cohasset Mariner tribute:

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

(By Mary Ford)

As editor of the Cohasset Mariner, it is my pleasure to announce that Marjorie Murphy is the Citizen of the Year. The mother of three and grandmother of two has touched countless lives through her roughly 25 years as school librarian at Deer Hill.

With eyes that twinkle and an infectious smile, Mrs. Murphy—fondly known as Marjie—can make even the oldest readers among us decide to pick up a children's book, perhaps for the first time in many years.

Mrs. Murphy did not start out as a librarian. She taught the first grade and wasn't so sure being in the library was the right place for her—until she tried it, and then she didn't look back.

She doesn't forget any of the hundreds of children that have passed through the doors to her warm, welcoming library complete with sofas to curl up and read upon.

While nominations were open, a total of 33 different individuals, families or organizations took the time to propose a citizen for

the annual award—detailing his or her contributions to help make this town we all love a better place.

The selection panel consisting of Judy Volungis of Forest Avenue, Betsy Connolly of Lily Pond Lane and Roger Hill of Highland Avenue joined myself, editor Mary Ford, on Sunday to pore over the heartfelt letters of nomination.

Barb Mullin wrote, "With Marjie, children always come first. She's never too busy to help a child select that 'perfect' book or listen to a review of their latest read. It's a pleasure to watch former students drop by—and they frequently do! She never seems to forget a face or a name. Ask any one of them about a teacher who positively influenced them and Marjie's name always pops up."

Claire Cahill said Mrs. Murphy deserved the award for her many years of dedication to the children of Cohasset.

"Her smile, her sparks of enthusiasm, and her unending quest to interest every child in her love of reading has made her a very likely candidate for Citizen of the Year," wrote Karen Murphy.

Dot and Lee Cisneros stated, "Marjie is a giver. She has given and continues to give of her time, her knowledge, her understanding, her devotion to selling the young and the old on her definition of the value of learning."

Judith Collins simply said, "She makes each child feel special."

So we extend our warm congratulations to Mrs. Murphy, who has devoted her life to helping children discover the wonders of reading and the value of a good book.

With this award, the Cohasset Mariner offers recognition for making a difference. In our society too many role models go unrecognized. Too often people today look to the sports, rock or movie stars with envy, when the real hero is the local police officer, firefighter, parent, teacher, church leader, neighbor or government official.

The annual Citizen of the Year Award is our way of taking our hats off to those among us who go that extra mile without asking for anything in return but the intrinsic reward of helping to make Cohasset a better place.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. KENNETH SMITH, RECIPIENT OF THE AMERICAN SHORE AND BEACH ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR 2004

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2004

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, those people who dedicate their lives to the protection of the environment are very special and deserve full recognition of their devotion, which is why I'm so pleased to be able to congratulate Ken Smith for being awarded the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association's Lifetime Achievement Award for 2004.

Ken has been a tireless, devoted advocate for not only New Jersey beaches but for beaches throughout the United States. Ken has spent twenty-five years as the "Coastal Advocate," has spent more than seven years as a Vice President and as a Director of the American Shore and Beach Preservation; and is a co-founder of the Alliance for a Living Ocean, formed in response to the awful summer when garbage and other pollution was washing up on the Jersey shore in 1987. The Alliance for a Living Ocean won the Governor's Award for Volunteerism in 1999, and

last but not least, Ken won the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association's Morrough P. O'Brien Award in 1999.

Ken has led by example for many years, bringing an awareness to so many people about the importance of working together to preserve not only our beaches and oceans, but the environment and our natural resources as a whole. He has been tireless in his dedication to not only protecting the beaches but educating people on the importance of preservation. Even as he is fighting his own battle with cancer, his amazing drive and devotion to our shores has not wavered in the least.

Congratulations Ken, I look forward to working with you for many more years to come.

RECOGNIZING COMMUNITY BLOOD SERVICES

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2004

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring both attention and admiration to a program that truly has had lifesaving results.

The Community Blood Services, located in Paramus, NJ, within my fifth Congressional District, has working partnerships with many hospitals in the New York metropolitan area to supply cord blood. This cord blood is used in the treatment of leukemia, breast cancer, lymphoma, Hodgkin's Disease, Aplastic Anemia, various other cancers, blood diseases, hereditary/genetic conditions and immune system disorders.

The Elie Katz Umbilical Cord Blood Program at Community Blood Services recently and generously announced it will donate one of its umbilical cord units to St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center in Paterson, NJ, to assist an uninsured patient in need of a lifesaving transplant.

The patient is suffering from Burkitt's Lymphoma, a non-Hodgkin's disease which is rare in most of the world, but is the most common childhood cancer in Central Africa.

The Elie Katz Umbilical Cord Blood Program was inaugurated in 1997. Since then, it has accepted more than 1600 donated cord blood units. To date, 24 of those units have been used for transplants in children throughout the world. The unit being donated to St. Joseph's will be the twenty-fifth.

Stem cells obtained from placentas and umbilical cords, have been proven to successfully aid in the treatment of many life-threatening diseases. Researchers have found that umbilical cords especially are a rich source of stem cells. This discovery could make the use of embryonic stem cells unnecessary. The cells are easily attainable and can be expanded in vitro, maintained in culture, and induced to differentiate into neural cells. They are a potential source of multipotent stem cells that may serve many therapeutic and biotechnological roles.

In order to identify possible genetic diseases or past illnesses that could jeopardize the patient, when collecting donated cord blood there is a wide-ranging parental history considered. Once the parents agree to the donation, a technician working closely with the delivery team collects the residual blood from the um-

bilical cord after it has been detached from the baby, ensuring no risk to the mother or child. The cord blood unit is then transferred to the processing laboratory at Community Blood Services, where the red blood cells are removed and the remaining stem cells are frozen in liquid nitrogen for long-term storage.

Let me close by portraying just how proud I am that such a worthwhile organization is located within my community. It is an honor for me today to bring attention to Community Blood Services on the floor of the House. We thank you for everything that you do.

RECOGNIZING PUTNAM COUNTY, NEW YORK

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2004

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, as the Member of Congress who represents all of Putnam County, NY, I rise today to recognize Putnam County leaders, groups, and residents for their remarkable achievement in being recognized nationwide as one of eight Preserve America communities.

The new Preserve America initiative was developed in cooperation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, as well as the U.S. Departments of Interior and Commerce. Putnam County recently received a Preserve America Award at a White House ceremony hosted by First Lady Laura Bush.

Located along the Hudson River, many of Putnam County's towns and villages were instrumental to trade and commerce throughout our nation's history. Putnam County has further demonstrated its ability to make history by becoming one of the first communities in our country to apply for and receive this special designation as a Preserve America Community. Putnam County's proactive spirit has been duly rewarded with this prestigious recognition.

County government has partnered with local municipalities, historic societies, and non-profit organizations to develop initiatives and plans to protect historic property for economic development and community revitalization. These efforts have helped Putnam County emerge as a national leader in the preservation of cultural and natural heritage.

I rise to commend Putnam County legislator Vincent Tamagna's dedicated efforts in spearheading the county's application efforts. I also rise to thank the Hudson River Valley Institute for its active support of Putnam County. Also deserving recognition and congratulations are Putnam County Executive Robert Bondi; the Putnam County legislature; Putnam County Historical Society; Putnam County Tourist Promotion Agency; Foundry School Museum; and the county's Historic Advisory Preservation Commission and its Office of the County Historian and County Archives.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely proud and honored to represent the people of Putnam County. They deserve this special designation for their steadfast commitment to preserving a uniquely historic past while planning for a bright and promising future.

ONE MORE CHEER FOR THE CAT IN THE HAT

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2004

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker:

I rise today as many have before, To honor Theodor Seuss Geisel for his contributions galore!

The literary world will never be the same, After being introduced to Dr. Seuss' name We remember the dreamer, the artist, the man,

Who taught us about life, green eggs and ham For 60 years he captivated us with stories for all to know,

And left a legacy of cherished books about the places we'd go

He may not have been a real doctor—but boredom he cured,

With rhythm and rhyme and colorful words, When our troops needed morale during World War II,

He was too old to serve but did what he could do,

With satire and imagery he inspired platoons With silly and potent political cartoons!

We celebrate today, a man who dreamed, And created for all an unending stream

Of insights and poems, books and tales, Of red fish, blue fish and others with scales

He gave us the Lorax to speak for the trees, A little creature to save saplings from corporate greed

And we cannot forget the Grinch with a heart so cold,

Or the innocence of a child, "Who," touched his soul

His 46 books weren't meant to be silly, Barbaloots were for grown-ups and leaders of cities,

Ahhh—So many stories, yet so little time, To commend this man for his gift of rhyme

So when the sun does not shine,

When it is too wet to play,

When you are sitting in your house, On a cold, cold, wet day

Always remember in December or September, The spell of wonder,

Dr. Seuss put us under.

INTRODUCTION OF ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION BOARD OF ADVISORS APPOINTMENTS

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2004

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize two outstanding individuals who have dedicated their lives to encouraging all Americans to participate in our government through the voting process. Under the authority granted to me by the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA), I have appointed two election experts, Joseph F. Crangle of Buffalo, NY and Hilary O. Shelton of Washington, DC, to serve as national voting procedure advisors to continue improving the election process in the wake of the 2000 elections.

HAVA established a four-person body called the Election Assistance Commission (EAC). I