

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### TRIBUTE TO MS. NORIS COLON

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 9, 2004*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise during this month of March, which has been designated Woman's History Month, to pay tribute to Ms. Noris Colon, president and chief executive officer of H.O.G.A.R. (Housing Options & Geriatric Association Resources, Inc.), an organization dedicated to improving the lives of homeless, elderly, mentally ill, physically challenged, and HIV/AIDS-infected individuals in the Bronx.

Noris was born in Salinas, PR, and is very proud of her family and heritage. She comes from a family with a long tradition of public service. In her home town of Salinas, there is a street named after her late father, Juan Manzanet, who was the first chief of the fire department.

Mr. Speaker, in 1996, Noris founded H.O.G.A.R. to fill a gap in the social service delivery system in Bronx County. The organization's mission is not only to raise awareness of the housing and health issues facing burdened groups of society, but also to provide ways of remedying these issues. As a result of her strong leadership, H.O.G.A.R. was selected as the "Outstanding Agency of the Year" by the Bronx Psychiatric Center and the State Office of Mental Health.

Noris has an extensive background in social and rehabilitative services and mental health administration. Her experience encompasses personnel management, psychiatric rehabilitation, community relations, and the development of special needs housing programs. She graduated from Nyack College, where she specialized in organizational management.

Mr. Speaker, Noris resume is impressive. She was the first administrator of the Mental Health Program of Hunts Point Multi Service Center. She has also served as director of Community Residences of South Bronx Mental Health Council and has worked at Casa La Esperanza and Harlem Hospital. In addition, Noris has served as chief of staff for City Councilman Federico Perez and was appointed Human Rights Commissioner of New York by Mayor Abraham Beame.

Mr. Speaker, for her immeasurable contributions to those most in need and most overlooked, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring this incredible woman.

### TRIBUTE TO THE NATIONAL ALTERNATIVE FUELS TRAINING CONSORTIUM AND IVY TECH STATE COLLEGE NORTHWEST

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 9, 2004*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and pleasure that I stand before

you to recognize the National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium and Ivy Tech State College Northwest as they join together for the second National Alternative Fuel Vehicle (AFV) Day Odyssey. They, along with other community leaders, will come together on Friday, April 2, 2004, at the Westfield Shoppingtown in Merrillville, Indiana, to explore alternatives to powering cars and trucks with fuels besides gasoline and diesel throughout many locations all across north-west Indiana.

The National AFV Day Odyssey began in 2002. The first event reached more than 17,000 people at 51 sites nationwide. This event will explore the environmental needs for AFV in our country, and local participants will learn of alternative fuel options to protect the future of not only northwest Indiana but the rest of the Nation as well. The National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium and Ivy Tech State College Northwest will be educating participants on how alternative fuel and advanced-technology vehicles rely on domestic fuels such as propane and natural gas to provide power for vehicles, which in turn help protect our environment.

The mission of the National AFV Day Odyssey is as follows: "To strengthen our Nation's energy security, to preserve our Nation's energy independence, to improve our Nation's air quality, to support our national expertise and technological advancement, to offer wider choices and opportunities for American drivers, and to spread the exciting news that advanced-technology and alternative fuel vehicles are a positive choice for transportation." The mission and goals of National AFV Day are vital to the protection of our environment and for the future generations of our country and the world.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing and paying tribute to the National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium and Ivy Tech State College Northwest as they strive to provide the tools and education for protecting our local, as well as national, interests in securing both the future of our environment and our Nation's energy independence.

### EXPRESSING SYMPATHY OF HOUSE FOR VICTIMS OF EARTHQUAKE IN IRAN

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 9, 2004*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 526 expressing the sympathy of the House of Representatives for the victims of the devastating earthquake in Bam, Iran, on December 26, 2003.

I was horrified to see a whole city brought to a sudden stop in a few seconds of brutal seismic activity. Approximately 40,000 people

died, or two-thirds of the 60,000 deaths worldwide from manmade and natural disasters in 2003; 30,000 people were injured, and up to 75,000 people were made homeless. But these statistics tell nothing of the personal impact of this tragedy on families and individuals. My heartfelt condolences go to them.

The tragedy of so many lives lost, and so many others turned upside down by the earthquake, is worsened by Bam's historic, cultural and architectural significance. Bam flourished as a site of pilgrimage and as a commercial and trading center on the famous Silk Road, which brought the treasures of the ancient Far East into what was then Persia, and on to the Mediterranean. The earthquake destroyed 90 percent of Bam. Now, it appears that much of this heritage may have been lost forever.

In the midst of so much devastation, relief workers from all over the world—including the United States—undoubtedly brought a considerable measure of relief. Their effectiveness was remarkable and exemplary. I thank them for their courageous work.

Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to express my deepest sympathy to the Iranian people for this terrible tragedy, and encourage this body to assist with the reconstruction of Bam and the anguish of its citizens. In addition, I call on people to continue to help raise money and send supplies to Bam, where the cost of reconstruction is estimated to be \$1 billion.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this resolution and urge its passage.

### TRIBUTE TO NELLIE M. McKAY

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 9, 2004*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise during this month of March, which has been designated Women's History Month, to pay tribute to Ms. Nellie McKay, an incredible woman who has dedicated most of her life to the service of others.

Nellie was born in 1929 to two hard-working parents, Polly and Alex Brown. She grew up with 10 brothers and sisters and learned the importance of sharing and support at a young age. Nellie has applied these values throughout her life as a community activist. New York was fortunate enough to become home to Nellie in 1950, when she immediately became a volunteer with the Baby Tracks program at the old Lincoln Hospital in the South Bronx. She also lent her time and energy to the Prosthesis Clinic at St. Luke's Hospital, easing the spirits of patients there. Nellie was a key player in the immunization program at local public schools, which is a crucial initiative for underresourced schools, especially during that era.

Mr. Speaker, Nellie has always been committed to educating and fostering awareness in those around her. Having earned a Bachelor

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

of Arts degree from Norwich University, she champions the importance of education. She has facilitated countless workshops on Black History to empower members of the Black community with knowledge of their history and culture as well as to inform members of other ethnic communities. Her main goal was to bring people together through learning.

Many young people and adults throughout the South Bronx consider Nellie a second mother. She has cared for hundreds of children in her home and coordinated numerous events with young people in the community. The fashion shows she organized with Mott Haven HeadStart children created wonderful memories for many. While Nellie may have a special place in her heart for children, she is also very concerned with general community development and giving everyone, children and adults alike, a sense of pride in their neighborhood. She has spearheaded the reparation of abandoned buildings and vacant lots and the repaving of roads and sidewalks. Knowing that she and her neighbors deserved quality public transportation service, she called for and received improvement of the local bus line. Nellie has also helped empower fellow Bronx residents by participating in a number of voter registration drives, encouraging her neighbors to make their voices heard.

Mr. Speaker, at 74 years of age, Nellie continues to work hard and is currently the chairperson of the Housing Committee of Planning Board I, assistant chairperson of the Patterson Volunteer Committee, a lifetime member of the National Council of Negro Women, and a member of the New York NAACP, as well as many other prestigious organizations.

In a day in age when many people do not pay attention to their neighbor, Nellie's selflessness is refreshing. For that reason, I ask that my colleagues join me honoring the contributions of this remarkable woman.

#### HONORING ST. SAVA SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**  
OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, March 9, 2004*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and enthusiasm that I congratulate St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church as they join together in celebration of their 90th anniversary. They will be celebrating this very momentous and special occasion November 13 and 14, 2004.

St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church and School is known throughout the northwest Indiana community as "Serbian Gary" because of its continued efforts over the past 90 years to perpetuate the Serbian Orthodox faith and traditions. In 1914, the founders proclaimed their mission of their new church before the Secretary of State in Indianapolis, Indiana. Their mission is as follows: "The purpose of this parish is to preach the Word of God (the Lord Jesus) and take spiritual care of its members; to spread goodness, justice, brotherly love, and respect among its members."

After much debate and discussion on who would be their chosen patron saint, it was unanimously decided that the patron saint of the parish and church would be St. Sava, the First Serbian Archbishop and Enlightener. In

1917, the parishioners, although under tremendous economic hardships, built the first church and school on 20th Avenue and Connecticut Street in Gary. Mr. Michael Pupin, a well-known Serbian scientist, served as Kum at the consecration services. Immediately after the Great Depression, the parish built an even larger church, school, parish hall, and library on 13th Avenue and Connecticut in 1938. Mr. Nikola Tesla, a well-known Serbian inventor and scientist, served as Kum at the consecration services.

In 1969, after Chairman Nick Chabreja purchased 40 acres of property on 49th Avenue in Hobart, the parish built a new parish hall for their summer meetings and family picnics. In February of 1978, during the day of honor to St. Simeon and Ana, the church was completely destroyed by a terrible fire. Under the leadership of President Zivojin Cokic and many volunteers, they built another church in the small hall of the 49th Avenue building. In May of 1991, the parish celebrated a "new beginning" when a brand-new building was constructed. The new building opened in Merrillville, where relics which survived the fire were blessed and installed into the new church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring and congratulating St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church on their 90th anniversary. Throughout many hardships and trials, the members of St. Sava have dedicated themselves to providing a spiritual and guiding light through the protection of the Serbian Orthodox faith and traditions for all of northwest Indiana. Their constant dedication and commitment is worthy of the highest commendation.

#### HONORING LIEUTENANT GENERAL SUNG EUN KIM (RET.)

**HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN**  
OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, March 9, 2004*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following statement signed by the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation as well as our dear friend and colleague, U.S. Representative CHARLES B. RANGEL of New York.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, Mr. RANGEL served in the U.S. Army from 1948 to 1952, during which time he fought in Korea and was awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to personally thank my colleagues for signing this letter to Lieutenant General Sung Eun Kim (Ret.).

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
*Washington, DC, March 5, 2004.*

Lieutenant General Sung Eun Kim (Ret.) served as the 4th Commandant of the Republic of Korea Marines Corps (ROKMC) and as ROK Minister of National Defense from 1963 to 1968. In General Kim, the United States has a true friend.

General Kim is a patriot who cares deeply for freedom and has a strong personal affinity for America. He also is an ardent supporter of the Korean War Memorial of Central Massachusetts, having made a significant contribution toward its construction and then encouraged many other ROKMC Commandants and other military leaders to join him in support of the Memorial, which stands as a symbol of Freedom.

The alliance between the ROK Marine Corps and the U.S. Marine Corps was forged in the fires of the Korean War, where Commandant General Kim and his ROK Marines fought shoulder-to-shoulder with U.S. Marines to repel brutal Communist aggression. According to historian Lieutenant Colonel James Durand, USMC, "... in the history of the ROK Marine Corps, General Kim is certainly in a class by himself. General Kim led ROK Marines in more battles than any other commander, including the amphibious landing at Tong Yong, which resulted in the first unit-wide promotions of the Korean War."

In a letter to Korean War Memorial Chairman Francis Carroll of Worcester, Massachusetts, General Kim wrote, "I want to thank the American people for all the sacrifices they have made for Korea. Had the United States not come to our aid 53 years ago, I would surely not be alive today to write this letter. . . . I know that South Korea would not be the prosperous, democratic nation it is today without the military, economic, and political assistance America has given us over the past half century."

Thank you General Kim, the ROK Marine Corps, and the people of the Republic of Korea for your friendship. We salute you.

Sincerely,  
Charles B. Rangel, Edward J. Markey,  
James P. McGovern, Barney Frank,  
Richard E. Neal, Martin T. Meehan,  
William D. Delahunt, Stephen F.  
Lynch, John W. Olver, John F. Tierney,  
Michael E. Capuano.

#### TRIBUTE TO MS. PALOMA IZQUIRDO-HERNANDEZ

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, March 9, 2004*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise during this month of March, which has been designated Women's History Month, to pay tribute to Ms. Paloma Izquierdo-Hernandez, a remarkable woman who has dedicated most of her life to the serving others.

Paloma, who was raised in the Bronx, New York, attended Boston College as an undergraduate and holds two masters degrees, a MS and a MPH from Teachers College, Columbia University and the School of Public Health, Columbia University, respectively. She is currently the President and Chief Executive Officer of Urban Health Plan Inc.

Paloma has been steadily associated with Urban Health Plan since 1980 and has risen to the top of the organization by dedicating over 23 years as the organization's Administrator, Executive Director and currently as its President and Chief Executive Officer. Throughout her tenure with Urban Health Plan, Ms. Hernandez has worked, despite monumental challenges, to deliver care in a culturally and linguistically competent manner while increasing the number of services offered to patients that her agency serves. She takes pride in acknowledging that despite the dramatic changes that she has witnessed both in her community and in the health care environment she has had the will to persist to fulfill the mission that was set before her.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that today over 30,000 community residents are provided with top quality health care and in the past