

The Steppenwolf Theatre Company has evolved effortlessly with changing times, while maintaining relationships with established playwrights such as Sam Shepard, Lanford Wilson and Alan Ayckbourn. They have reinvented classics like John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*, and more recently produced and developed the world premiere of *Man from Nebraska* by ensemble member Tracy Letts.

With their original principals of ensemble collaboration and artistic risk still flourishing, Steppenwolf now approaches its 30th anniversary as a professional theater company. The Company has been lavished with high praise from national and international media, art critics and audiences alike.

This persistent effort has earned Steppenwolf several prestigious awards. Most recently, they include the Joseph Jefferson Award for Chicago Theatre Excellence and the 2003 Equity Special Award for leadership in national and international acclaim for Chicago Theatre, and for excellent training and outreach programs, partnership and support of theatres, playwrights and artists new to the scene.

Mr. Speaker, I join with all proud residents of the Fifth District and the City of Chicago in congratulating the Steppenwolf Theatre Company on its many achievements in thirty years, and wish it continued success as it further solidifies its unique and landmark status in our great City.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CAREER
OF GEORGE R. TUCKER

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 1, 2004

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life's work of George R. Tucker, retiring as the Regional Director and Executive Secretary of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Ohio Council 8, AFL-CIO. Mr. Tucker has spent his career furthering the goals of organized labor in the struggle to improve the lives and livelihoods of the brothers and sisters and thus, make our Nation stronger.

AFL Founder Samuel Gompers explained in an 1898 speech, "To protect the workers in their inalienable rights to a higher and better life; to protect them, not only as equals before the law, but also in their health, their homes, their firesides, their liberties as men, as workers, as citizens; to overcome and conquer prejudices and antagonism; to secure to them the right to life, and the opportunity to maintain that life; the right to be full sharers in the abundance which is the result of their brain and brawn, and the civilization of which they are the founders and the mainstay. . . . The attainment of these is the glorious mission of the trade unions." His words ring as eloquently true in the dawn of the 21st century as they did in the waning of the 19th century. His words provide the blueprint by which labor leaders like George Tucker have always led, setting the economic and social achievements of the membership as a whole as their primary goal.

George Tucker completed high school at Toledo's Woodward High School and followed

that with service in the United States Navy. After more than two decades "in the trenches," he became the staff representative for AFSCME's Ohio Council 8 in 1984. In 1987 he took on the responsibilities of Regional Director, adding Executive Secretary in 2002. Other offices Mr. Tucker has held during his tenure with AFSCME Ohio Council 8 are Secretary-Treasurer and Regional Vice President. At the same time, he has served the Toledo Area AFL-CIO on its steering committee and executive board and as President. He also holds a position on the national AFL-CIO's advisory board. Mr. Tucker gives of his time and talents to the United Labor Committee, Northwest Ohio Center for Labor Management Cooperation, Toledo Labor Management Citizens Committee, and the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists. In all these pursuits, he has championed the causes of better wages, benefits, and working conditions for the thousands of workers whose lives he has touched.

Mr. Tucker has not limited his service to the union movement; he is also a community leader. He has ably and actively served on the boards of the local EMS, Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Ohio Public Employers Lawyers Association, the Private Industry Council, United Way, Lucas County Democratic Party, Toledo Port Council, and the Down River Inter-City Hockey Club in Detroit and the Greater Toledo Amateur Hockey Association. He is a member of American Legion Post 110, Destroyer Escort Sailors Association, Augsburg Lutheran Church, and the Placers Car Club.

Reviewing the exhaustive list of George Tucker's civic activities, it is clear his retirement is most deserved and maybe a little bit welcome. We wish him a most enjoyable journey on this new path in his life. We hope he is able to spend time with his wife and their children and grandchildren, and pursue golfing and the hobby of antique cars with the same vigor with which he has pursued his public life. Even though he may be officially retiring, we know we can continue to count on George Tucker's learned wisdom and personal counsel. Our community has been bettered immeasurably as a result of his dedication and good cheer. Onward, friend.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATION OF
EPOCH BY THE DISTRICT OF CO-
LUMBIA

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 1, 2004

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with Congress that on Monday, April 19, 2004, District of Columbia Mayor Anthony A. Williams will publicly dedicate Epoch, a permanent monumental abstract steel sculpture by artist Albert Paley, which was recently installed in front of the PEPCO Headquarters at 9th and G Streets, NW. A poem by Dolores Kendrick, Poet Laureate of Washington, DC, is stamped into the metal structure of the sculpture. The genesis and placement of the text were determined through collaborative efforts between Ms. Kendrick and Mr. Paley. This project represents the second instance in which an African American woman has been honored by being prominently represented in a

public artwork in the District of Columbia. The first African American woman was Mary McLeod Bethune, whose sculpture is in Lincoln Park.

Epoch will serve as a major landmark in the heart of newly re-developed and revitalized downtown Washington, DC. Its location marks a major intersection for pedestrian and vehicular travel within the dynamic 7th Street Arts District, an area that is emerging as a hot and stylish destination for entertainment, retail, and culture. Epoch is installed across the street from the Smithsonian Museum of American Art/Portrait Gallery, the Gallery Place Metro Station, and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library, the main branch of the DC Public Library. This area also features the MCI Center Arena, the new Washington Convention Center, the City Museum of Washington, DC, the Washington Shakespeare Theatre, the Spy Museum, the National Mall, and a significant number of prominent art galleries, shops, and restaurants.

Epoch measures 25 feet high by 12 feet wide by 10 feet deep, approximately one and a half stories tall, and is painted in a vibrant multicolored palette featuring blue, yellow, purple and red-orange. The design of the sculpture was recommended by a special selection committee for the project that included community representatives and was approved by Commissioners of the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities (appointed by the Mayor of the District of Columbia) and the Commission of Fine Arts (appointed by the President of the U.S.A.).

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES MARSHALL

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 1, 2004

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a friend and constituent, a beloved citizen of Aransas Pass, Texas, an established entrepreneur, and a compassionate neighbor—Mr. Charles Marshall. He has served his town, its needy and especially, its children, for nearly half of a century.

I can think of no one more deserving of recognition for empowering a community with the best educational opportunities that can be bestowed upon its youngest citizens. It is the personal values he has held throughout his years of public service which enhance the contributions and unshakeable faith he has for the people of Aransas Pass.

Charlie Marshall was born July 7, 1923 in Skidmore, Texas. He attended public school in Raymondville and later graduated from Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos. He served his country in the Navy during World War II, serving for 3 years on a back-up troop transport in an operating room. After returning from the war, he threw himself into civilian life and enrolled in Landig Mortuary College in Houston, Texas—eventually rising to valedictorian and class president.

He moved to Aransas Pass in 1949 and went to work for Cage Funeral Home. In 1953, it became Cage-Marshall Funeral Homes. Thirty-five years later, in 1998, the Charlie Marshall Funeral Home and Crematory of Aransas Pass was officially dedicated. Charlie's professional commitment was recognized

by the State of Texas. He was appointed to the Texas State Board of Morticians by Governors Price Daniels, John Connally, Preston Smith and Dolph Briscoe.

Charlie knew Aransas Pass was a great place to live and that the area would flourish if it had a solid educational hub. So in May 1959, he ran and was elected to the school board. This position enabled him to use his ability to inspire, attract and engage students and parents to work together to support academic excellence, and enhance pride in their community. Mr. Marshall continues today to visit the school campuses and talk to the students. He attends the Panther Sports events and supports many school activities that provide young people a chance to represent their school and community.

In addition to his exemplary service to his profession and the local educational community, Charlie has also served in civic, charitable and social organizations which propel the community and its citizens to prosperity.

These organizations include the Veterans of Foreign Wars, where he received the Good Citizenship Award, and the Aransas Pass Chamber of Commerce, where he has served for many years as an officer. He is credited as the founder and early organizer of the Shrimpooree Festival, which continues to benefit San Patricio County. He was a distinguished director of the Overbid Property Trust, whose proceeds built the Aransas Pass Public Library. He was awarded the Aransas Pass Citizen of the Year Award 1972, and the coveted Murl Smith Award in 1981. Mr. Marshall was one of the founders of the Aransas Pass Associated Charities, which later grew into the Christian Service Center, serving thousands of needy families and children.

The citizens of Aransas Pass honored Mr. Marshall by naming an elementary school in recognition of his many community and educational contributions. It is my pleasure to pay homage to Charlie Marshall on the House Floor for his tireless efforts and 45 years of stellar leadership in education. I must also commend Charlie's late wife Gayle, his daughter, Marty, and son, Bill, who not only supported his service to Aransas Pass, but have shared his compassion and commitment.

I ask my Congressional Colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Charles Marshall for his exceptional career and contributions to the great State of Texas and our Nation.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INTELLIGENCE TRANSFORMATION ACT OF 2004

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 1, 2004

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, today my colleagues and I on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence are initiating a call to action.

The problems plaguing American intelligence are too grave, and the potential damage to U.S. national security, force protection in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere, too important to justify delay.

These problems require urgent attention from the President—who has the power to fix some identified problems with our intelligence

now—and from Congress, which built our Intelligence Community five decades ago to fight an enemy that no longer exists.

But those of us in Congress must also do our part.

That is why we are introducing a major legislative proposal—the Intelligence Transformation Act of 2004 (H.R. 4104)—a set of critical and urgent reforms for the Intelligence Community.

The highlight of this proposal is the creation of a Director of National Intelligence (a “DNI”), who has budgetary and statutory authority over the entire Intelligence Community. This is not a new idea. And it is not a Democratic idea. It was one of reforms recommended by the bipartisan, bicameral 9/11 Joint Congressional Inquiry.

But our legislation does more. We are also proposing “jointness” in collection, analysis and dissemination of intelligence. We believe that one of the major deficiencies in our Intelligence Community is the fact that there are fifteen intelligence agencies—operating with different rules, cultures, and databases—that do not work as one, integrated Intelligence Community.

We also believe that our Intelligence Community must leverage the power of information technology to help our intelligence professionals share data in real-time. The United States has the best IT capabilities in the world, but we have scarcely touched that potential to help the IC do its job.

Finally, the Act would create a new WMD Proliferation Threat Integration Center (PROTIC) to provide integrated tasking of collection and analysis on the WMD proliferation threat.

At a time when much of Washington is fingerpointing, we hope this legislation today will add some light to the heat surrounding the subject of intelligence failures.

We had hoped to produce a bipartisan bill—and we believe that it will ultimately be a bipartisan bill because it is good policy and because of its bipartisan parentage. We shared our legislative ideas with the majority on our Committee, but we did not want the legislative year to pass while awaiting their response.

The terrorists and the enemies of the United States will not wait until after November to plot their attacks—nor will they check our party registration before they launch those attacks against us. We cannot afford to wait. This task is urgent. We must act now.

HONORING LARRY LATTMAN,
NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 1, 2004

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my good friend Larry Lattman. Mr. Lattman's outstanding contributions and dedication to our country are truly appreciated.

A highly regarded member of the community, Larry Lattman was born in Los Angeles, California. After graduating from high school he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps where he served with tremendous honor and valiance in the Korean War.

Larry Lattman is a member of the Marine Corps League, AMVETS, Jewish War Vet-

erans, the Veterans of Foreign Wars; he has a seat on the California Veterans Board and is a member of the National Legislative Committee of the American Legion. He served two terms with distinction as Chairperson of the Allied Council of the Veterans Home in Yountville. As Chair of the Allied Council Mr. Lattman appeared before California State Senate and Assembly Committees, speaking on the behalf of veterans more than 100 times.

Mr. Lattman's many trips to the legislature helped the Home receive needed funds for projects such as construction of new water and electric systems, improving the recreation building, cemetery renovations, and the purchase of a new x-ray machine as well as a whole host of other improvements.

In spite of severe physical limitations and major disabilities, he has distinguished himself as a selfless crusader on behalf of other veterans. He has demonstrated with distinction the creed, “Veterans Helping Veterans.”

Larry Lattman is being recognized this year for his outstanding contributions as a veteran's advocate by the Veterans Home during Yountville's Founders Day Celebration. He is being inducted into the Yountville Veteran Home's hall of fame, their highest honor.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize Larry Lattman for his contributions and service to the people of our country.

A TRIBUTE TO SOUTH MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 1, 2004

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to proudly pay tribute to South Mountain High School, in Phoenix, Arizona, which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.

This distinguished school in the Phoenix Unified High School District first opened its doors in February of 1954. For the last five decades it has proudly served the educational needs of the students in south Phoenix and has become one of the most dynamic schools in the district, offering five magnet programs: aviation and aerospace education, law-related studies, performing arts (drama, music, and dance), visual arts (drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, computer art and photography), and communication art (print, radio, television and film).

From its student body to its administrative team, SMHS's history of success is lengthy. Accommodating up to 3,000 students at times, the school has been able to maintain one of the highest graduation and attendance rates in the district. In addition, throughout the years students at SMHS have consistently improved their test scores in every category.

The administrative staff at SMHS is also a reason to boast. Of the seven National Board Certified Teachers in the district, four teach at South Mountain. The school has produced the District Teacher of the Year for the past two years, and Assistant Principal Robert Estrada was named 2002 Arizona Class 5—A Athletic Director of the Year. Furthermore, the Administrative team at South Mountain has the longest tenure of any team in the district. Patricia Tobin, in her sixth year, has the second longest tenure as a current principle at a Phoenix Union school.