

Emigrating from Russia, Philip's father, William, and his uncle, Jack, came to New Haven in 1913 and began selling fabric from a pushcart on Grand Avenue. With hard work, dedication and a dream, they opened a storefront nearby, and later, Horowitz Bros. moved to its home. In later years, Philip, his brother, Leonard, and their cousin, Arthur, took over the family business.

I have often said that small businesses are the backbone of our Nation's economy. Through the years, Horowitz Bros. has been a fixture in downtown New Haven, outlasting a number of large department stores as well as smaller, family-owned businesses which have gradually disappeared. For the last 90 years, Horowitz Bros. has been a valued treasure in the city of New Haven, a testament to the American dream and to the invaluable place small business has in a community.

Horowitz Bros. holds a special place in the hearts of employees and customers alike. I have fond memories of going with my mother to pick out fabrics for the dresses she would make for me as a child. While waiting for my mother to choose her fabrics, you could always find me rearranging the many spools of thread, a habit which I am sure caused some chaos, but was always met with a good-natured smile. It is not an exaggeration to say that Philip was the very heart and soul of the store. His dedication, compassion and generosity is well known to all who had the opportunity to meet him. Philip was often characterized as a good man, a friend to all. His warmth, kindness and gentle spirit touched the lives of so many, and it is in that way that he will always be remembered.

I am proud to stand today to honor Philip Horowitz and all that he meant to the New Haven community. I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to his wife, Hilda, his brother, Leonard, and his entire family. New Haven has lost a true community treasure in Philip Horowitz; however, I know that his memory will continue to live in the hearts and minds of all who knew him.

HONORING DALE BUTLER

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2004

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dale Butler for 30 years of dedicated service to the Stanislaus County Chief Executive Office. On Friday, January 30th, he will be commended at an event held in his honor in Modesto, California.

Dale was raised in the Westside of Stanislaus County and was employed as a migrant farm worker. He served as a Personnel Specialist in the United States Navy for 4 years beginning in 1962. In 1967, he worked as the Production Control Scheduler for Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant. Mr. Butler later went to California State University, Stanislaus, to be the Tutorial Supervisor under the Educational Opportunity Program. In 1971, he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from California State University, Stanislaus.

Dale began his career with the Stanislaus County Chief Executive Office in 1971 and held numerous positions in the Personnel De-

partment. At present, he holds the Deputy Executive Officer position and oversees the Purchasing, Central Services, and Fleet Services Divisions.

Mr. Butler is an active member in a vast number of professional as well as community associations. He currently holds membership in the Central California Chapter of International Personnel Management Association, the California Association of Public Purchasing Officers, the National Association of Purchasing Managers for Central California, and the Institute for Supply Management. Dale's community activities involve being president of the Stanislaus County Fair Board and being associated with Stanislaus County's Latino Community Round Table, the Hispanic Leadership Council, the Mabuhay Club and the Modesto Bee's Hispanic Advisory Council.

The awards and accomplishments achieved by Mr. Butler have been great in number and prestigious in status. He was given a Special Recognition Award for Promoting Equal Rights by the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors, an Outstanding Latino of the Year Award by his Latino Community Round Table, and a Humanitarian of the Year Award by the California Association of Physically Handicapped, Inc. He is co-owner of Hispanic Enterprises, LLC, a multiservice Hispanic-Owned Business, and has graduated from the Intergovernmental Management Training Program and the Leadership Modesto Program. His fluency in Spanish and dedication to the community add to the success he has achieved over the years.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dale Butler upon his retirement from the Stanislaus County Chief Executive Office. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Dale a fulfilling retirement.

PROSPECTS FOR PEACE IN THE SUDAN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, as you are keenly aware, the road to peace for the people of Sudan has been long and perilous. Last July, I spoke on the floor about the prospects for peace in the Sudan and the progress that was being made in negotiations between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army. I am gratified to report that agreement has now been reached on the issue of wealth-sharing; and just this past weekend, issues were resolved with regard to the Nuba Mountain and Southern Blue Nile regions, two of the three disputed areas between the parties. My understanding is that an agreement on the disputed areas will be signed as soon as resolution can be reached on the third disputed area, Abyei.

Mr. Speaker, we remain optimistic that these recent events will soon lead to an historic accord on a Framework Agreement, which will, at last, bring an end to the 20-year war in Sudan and bring peace and social stability to all the people of Sudan.

Mr. Speaker, peace is near in the Sudan.

I would like to recognize the commitment of President Bashir and the Khartoum government and that of SPLM/A and Mr. Garang in

their tireless efforts to make this historic moment possible. I would also like to recognize the continuing commitment of this administration to achieving peace in the Sudan and that of Special Envoy John Danforth for his role as a catalyst for the peace process.

Mr. Speaker, I call on my distinguished colleagues to join me in celebrating this historic milestone and in praying that a peace agreement will soon be reached. We should look forward to the day when peace is at hand, when U.S. sanctions can be lifted and Sudan removed from the State Department's State Sponsors of Terrorists list and given the opportunity to receive the benefits of American ingenuity, technology and investment for their sustained growth and economic prosperity.

THE FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF BLACK STATE LEGISLATORS

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2004

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a versatile and committed group of elected officials in Miami-Dade County who are members of the Florida Conference of Black State Legislators (FCBSL). On Thursday, January 29, 2004, they will be spearheading the 2004 Miami Regional Issues Conference, beginning with a town hall meeting on the "High Stakes of the Florida Comprehensive Achievement Test (FCAT)" to be held at Miami Edison Middle School.

Joining them are parents and community leaders, school administrators and teachers, as well as elected and appointed officials from Miami-Dade County and the State of Florida. This conference comes at an opportune time when there is a need to foster greater knowledge and involvement regarding government and politics among residents of our various neighborhoods.

In its most vivid history, the Florida Conference of Black State Legislators was incorporated in 1982 upon the election of nine prominent African Americans to the Florida House of Representatives. Indeed, the life of each of these legislators, and those that have followed, has become legendary and about as close to the impossible dream as I have witnessed.

These preeminent leaders will spearhead this 2-day conference, which will cover crucial issues such as Affordable Access to Health Care, Juvenile and Criminal Justice, Telecommunications, Hip Hop and Politics, Front Porch Florida, and Florida's Pari Mutuels. The Florida Caucus leads a critical gathering of concerned citizens, as well as the virtues of responsible and competent public servants who aspire to expound their unwavering positions on equal educational opportunities for minorities, the controversial incongruence of the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT), along with their unconditional passion for justice, equal rights, and educational opportunity for all.

In a special manner, ever since I have known the members of the Miami Black Caucus delegation, these leaders have always been at the forefront of ensuring equal participation in the shared duties and responsibilities on the part of Miami-Dade County's citizenry.

At the same time, their forceful advocacy for adhering to the tenets of equal treatment under the law not only in the halls of academia, but also in every segment of our State government agencies has become legendary. In fact, countless others have been touched by their genuine commitment to public service, especially to minorities who could least fend for themselves.

The legislators forming the Miami Regional Issues Conference Committee truly exemplify a unique and responsive leadership whose courageous vision and wisdom appeal to the critical issues impacting our community and the entire State of Florida.

I would like to extend my personal invitation to all those interested in our State government to enable them to seize the opportunity to renew and enhance their commitment to our common well-being as we prepare to meet the many challenges of our times. I honor these distinguished colleagues and fellow public servants of mine.

REMEMBERING THE MAYOR OF
PONCE, PR, RAFAEL
"CHURUMBA" CORDERO
SANTIAGO

HON. ANÍBAL ACEVEDO-VILÁ

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2004

Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend the people of Puerto Rico have lost a great man. Rafael Cordero Santiago, mayor of the Municipality of Ponce for the last 16 years, unexpectedly passed away Saturday morning at the age of 61. "Churumba," as he was fondly known to everyone back home, was a pillar of strength in the Popular Democratic Party. He was an accomplished politician, a hardworking administrator, and a true and honest patriot. His unwavering commitment and dedication to his country, his party, and his beloved city of Ponce are testaments to his extraordinary character.

Born in Ponce in 1942, Cordero Santiago dedicated the majority of his life to public service. After obtaining a bachelor's degree in political science, economics, and social science from the Catholic University of Puerto Rico in Ponce, he began his public career in the Department of Commerce of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in 1964. From there, he moved on to serve as a special assistant to then-president of the Puerto Rican senate, Rafael Hernandez Colon, followed by terms as auxiliary Secretary of Domestic Commerce in the Department of Commerce of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and as administrator of the Right to Employment Administration. In 1988 he was elected mayor of Ponce, a position that he proudly occupied until his death.

His work in Ponce spanned almost 2 decades and is marked by great improvement and progress in the region, as evidenced by the city's economic and social growth. His most recent achievement was the approval of the Plan de Ordenacion Territorial de Ponce, which gives the city ample funding for infrastructure projects, including the Port of the Americas. I worked closely with the mayor in support of Port of the Americas, which will bring a state-of-the-art transshipment facility to Ponce that will provide for lasting job growth

and economic development. Upon completion, the Port of the Americas will become the leading port in the Caribbean.

He is survived by his wife, Madeleine Velasco, and his twin daughters, Solange Marie and Mara Bianca. His years of hard work and dedication to his family, his country, and his city will live on in his unforgettable legacy. Please join me in honoring this exemplary Puerto Rican's life and supporting his family in their time of sorrow.

HONORING JEAN SCHULZ

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2004

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jean Schulz, who is stepping down as the National Board President of Canine Companions for Independence after 15 years of dedicated service.

Jean Schulz has been committed to developing and enhancing the services that CCI provides, and with her leadership, CCI places twice as many dogs with people with disabilities as they did when she took over as president. The Jean and Charles Schulz Campus, which serves as the National Headquarters and Northwest Regional Center of Canine Companions for Independence, was built due to the efforts of Ms. Schulz and her late husband, Charles M. Schulz, creator of the Peanuts comic strip.

In 1997, Jean and Charles M. Schulz were instrumental in creating the Charles M. Schulz Museum and Research Center designed to preserve and educate people about Charles M. Schulz, the Peanuts comic strip and its characters. Ms. Schulz remains an active member on the board of directors of the museum.

Dedicated to various environmental, educational and human service organizations over the years, the Schulzes donated \$5 million to Sonoma State University to build the Jean and Charles Schulz Information Center that houses a state-of-the-art library, computer labs and an art gallery. This facility has become a hub of student activity.

Ms. Schulz's combination of leadership and commitment to her community has earned her many awards and honors. She received a Key to the City from the Santa Rosa City Council, was the recipient of a Leadership Award from the Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce and received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from the Sonoma State University.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Jean Schulz for her many contributions to Canine Companions for Independence and the entire community.

CONGRATULATING KATHY
CLONINGER, NEW CHIEF EXECU-
TIVE OFFICER FOR THE GIRL
SCOUTS OF AMERICA

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2004

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I have the privilege today of honoring Kathy Cloninger, the

new Chief Executive Officer for the Girl Scouts of America.

Ms. Cloninger is a native of Nashville, Tennessee in my district. She has been a long-time advocate for the Girl Scouts and has an accomplished history in not-for-profit leadership. Before her recent appointment to the post of CEO, Ms. Cloninger served as the head of the Girl Scout Council of Cumberland Valley in Nashville. During her tenure there, Girl Scout membership in our region rose to more than 25,000 girls—an increase of nearly 40 percent. She was also responsible for creating an outreach program that tripled the number of African American Girl Scouts, increased the participation of Hispanic girls, and brought more than 1,000 girls in public housing into the program.

In Nashville, Ms. Cloninger also helped to found the Association of Non-Profit Executives and has served on the boards of numerous organizations, including the Center for Non-Profit Management, Leadership Nashville, and the United Way of Metropolitan Nashville. She has also held top-level positions at the Kellogg Foundation and the YWCA.

With more than 3.7 million current members, the Girl Scouts have been a cherished American institution for the past 90 years. The qualities of leadership, values and social conscience that the Girl Scouts instill in their members have served as guideposts for many generations of girls and young women, including in my own family. I am proud to say that my wife, Martha, and my daughter, Mary, have been Girl Scouts members and continue to be supporters of this fine organization.

I have every confidence that Ms. Cloninger will continue her excellent leadership of the Girl Scouts on the national level. In our present times, it is now more important than ever to maintain organizations and programs that provide positive leadership and encouragement for our nation's young people. In light of her proven record and her devotion to the ideals of the Girl Scouts, I have no doubt that Kathy Cloninger will prove to be an excellent role model and leader to guide our young girls into the 21st century.

On behalf of the people of the fifth district of Tennessee and your hometown, Nashville, I am proud to extend to Ms. Cloninger my warmest wishes and congratulations.

INDIA'S REPUBLIC DAY, JANUARY
26, 2004

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2004

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to one of the most important dates on the calendar for the people of India, as well as for the people of Indian descent who have settled in the United States and around the world. January 26th is Republic Day, an occasion that inspires pride and patriotism for the people of India.

On January 26, 1950, India became a Republic, devoted to the principles of democracy and secularism. At that time, Dr. Rajendra Prasad was elected as the nation's first president. Since then, despite the challenges of sustaining economic development and promoting tolerance and cooperation amongst its