

great-grandfather who grew the first American Beauty Rose in the White House garden. Mr. Duff's father also served as an Admiralty lawyer, working with Presidents McKinley and Franklin Roosevelt to establish merchant marine laws. The U.S. Congress and the Maritime Commission recognized his work by naming in his honor a WWII Liberty Ship, the "S.S. Edwin H. Duff."

Mr. Duff served the Air Force Strategic Air Command Headquarters as a photo intelligence specialist, analyzing satellite and U2 photography during the Cold War. In 1962, he made the initial confirmation of a Russian missile in the Havana harbor that ultimately led to the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Mr. Duff also distinguished himself as a wildlife and fisheries biologist in the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Land Management. These agencies, as well as the Environmental Protection Agency, the American Fisheries Society, and Trout Unlimited have recognized him, for his expertise in conserving native fishes and in river restoration.

He was a member of America's first fisheries scientific exchange with the Republic of Ireland in 1989. In the ensuing years, he developed a management plan for restoration of Ireland's salmon species. Ireland was later awarded 19 million pounds from the European Union for this restoration, and Mr. Duff served as the chief external advisor from 1995–2000, restoring over 200 miles of salmon-bearing rivers and habitats. He has been instrumental in providing similar assistance to other European and Asian countries during his career.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Duff's achievements on the occasion of his retirement.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE COUNTY OF WILL

#### HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 2004*

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the County of Will as it is recognized as the 2004 recipient of the Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce's annual "Salute to Industry Award". The County will be the 28th recipient of this award and lies within my 11th Congressional District in Illinois.

Will County was first established in 1836 by an act of the Illinois legislature, which subdivided it from Cook County. The area was a favorite hunting ground for the Indians as it had an abundant supply of water and timber. Travel was facilitated by the old Sauk Trail and by the Des Plaines, DuPage, and Kankakee Rivers.

Today, the County is the fastest growing county in Illinois and the fourth-fastest growing county in the nation. According to the U.S. Census the population of Will County as of April 2001, was a little over 502,000. It is estimated that Will County's population will reach over 800,000 by the year 2020 and over 1 million in 2030.

Will County is the only county in the State of Illinois that has the County Executive System. Mr. Joe Mikan is the current County Executive. The County Board is comprised of 27 members, of which three represent each of the nine districts.

County Executive Mikan and Will County elected officials are always striving for new advances to make it easier for constituents and businesses to operate in the County. They have streamlined business procedures, opened a Workforce Services division, and developed the Will County Archives Center. The County is also pursuing co-sponsorship of the future South Suburban Airport.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this body to identify and recognize other counties in their own districts whose actions have so greatly benefitted and strengthened America's families and communities.

#### RECOGNIZING JOAQUIN RECLOSADO, JR., A VETERAN'S VETERAN

#### HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 2004*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Joaquin Reclosado, Jr., a Marine and California National Guard veteran who is the driving force behind the Annual Sunset Retreat Ceremonies held in Imperial County, California in my Congressional District.

On November 11, 2003, the Eighth Annual Sunset Retreat was conducted by local veterans to celebrate Veterans' Day. Each year, a ceremony is held for veterans, with special attention to veterans of a prior war, women veterans, and this year, Native American veterans.

The Sunset Retreat is the brainchild of Mr. Reclosado, universally recognized as "Junior". He organized the first event in 1996. He oversaw the committees, obtained equipment and the venue, contacted participants, and made certain that the event took place. But for Junior, all agree that the Sunset Retreat Ceremony would not happen!

He was born in Calexico, California in 1935 of Mexican and Filipino parents and attended school in Calexico. He joined the Marines in 1953, serving in Korea and leaving active service in 1963. The next 27 years, Junior spent with the Imperial County Sheriff's Department and serving in the California National Guard. He retired from the Guard at the age of 60 with the rank of Sgt. Major.

In addition to his duties with the annual Sunset Retreat, Junior is active with the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Korean War Veterans Association, and the 1st Marine Division Association, both in Imperial Valley and in the state of California. He organizes Memorial Day ceremonies, MIA-POW recognitions, and the details of veterans' funerals. He arranges for veterans to visit local schools. He is a frequent participant in events of the Imperial Valley United Veterans Council.

Junior Reclosado is someone who is deeply involved in bringing deserved attention to the contributions of the men and women in the Armed Forces and to our country's veterans. He is a veterans' veteran!

I am pleased to take this opportunity to honor him and his service to his community and to our nation.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 2004*

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, due to the inclement weather my flight was cancelled yesterday and I was absent for rollcall vote No. 6 on H.R. 3493, and rollcall vote No. 7 on H.R. 1385.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on each of these rollcall votes.

#### BILL TO HONOR FORMER GOVERNOR LUIS A. FERRÉ

#### HON. ANÍBAL ACEVEDO-VILÁ

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 2004*

Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ. Mr. Speaker, last October, the people of Puerto Rico lost a great man. Former Governor Luis A. Ferré was a visionary who dedicated his life to his country. As Governor from 1968 to 1972, he was a proponent of many projects that ensured great economic development for the island. To honor his life, today I am introducing legislation, as a companion to legislation introduced by Senator RICK SANTORUM in the Senate, to designate the Luis A. Ferré United States Courthouse and Post Office Building, located at 93 Atocha Street in Ponce, PR, as a tribute to his life and work.

Former Governor Ferré was a brilliant politician, musician, businessman, and philanthropist who dedicated his life to serving his people and moving Puerto Rico forward. During his term as Governor, he created, among other things, the Environmental Quality Board, the Departments of Natural Resources and Housing, the Office of Youth Affairs, and the Tourism Company. Throughout his life, he also demonstrated his unwavering commitment to Puerto Rican culture and the arts by founding what is now the biggest newspaper in Puerto Rico and the Art Museum of Ponce.

He was an extraordinary man whose efforts and endeavors gave luster to Puerto Rico and to his native city of Ponce. During his years in the public service, he demonstrated true commitment and dedication to his country and his city by initiating public works and creating projects that contributed to the modern and developed Puerto Rico that we enjoy today.

His love for Puerto Rico and its people will live on forever in the hearts of all Puerto Ricans. Giving his name to the U.S. Courthouse and Post Office building in Ponce is a simple but long-lasting way to recognize his work and honor his life, and I ask you to join me in celebrating his life.

#### CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

#### HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 2004*

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great sense of honor that I rise to celebrate

Black History Month and its 2004 theme—Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education. On May 17th of this year, we will celebrate the anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision to desegregate public schools in America. Because of this ruling, many significant pathways have been opened within our country that focus on justice, equality, and the importance of education.

As we reflect on the importance of the Brown v. Board of Education ruling, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to an individual from the First Congressional District that has represented the epitome of leadership in education within the African-American community, Dr. YJean Chambers. YJean passed away on Wednesday, November 12th, 2003, but her legacy of courage and dedication continues to inspire us all each day.

YJean and her family moved to Gary, Indiana from Kentucky when she was a young girl, seeking a better life for themselves. In 1939, she graduated from Gary Roosevelt High School ranking second in her class, and then went on to earn her Bachelor of Education degree from Illinois State University. She also went on to earn her Master of Arts degree from Purdue University, where she received Purdue University's highest award, Doctor of Humane Letters in 1993.

YJean knew how important education was to all members of her community and therefore shared her gift of knowledge and enthusiasm for learning by becoming a teacher in Madison, Illinois. After two years she began teaching speech and drama at her alma mater, Gary Roosevelt High School. In 1971, YJean became a full time professor at Purdue Calumet in Hammond, Indiana where she taught communications and was appointed Assistant Professor of Communications in 1973.

YJean gave selflessly to her community in so many ways, including being a member of several important educational organizations. She served as President of the Steel City Hall of Fame, sat on the Service Academies Nomination Board, was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Gary Community Schools, and was also a member of the Board of Directors of the Indiana School Board Association. YJean made history in Northwest Indiana by becoming the first African American woman elected to the Northwest Indiana Crime Commission and the first woman to serve on the Advisory Board of the Bank of Indiana.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education throughout Black History Month, let us pay tribute to our country's educational leaders such as Dr. YJean Chambers, who have taught us the true values of equality and determination. I respectfully ask that you and my other colleagues join me in commending Dr. Chambers, as well as all other outstanding African-American leaders in education for their efforts to build a better society for our country and the citizens of Northwest Indiana.

## INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 22, 2004 AS NATIONAL EATING DISORDERS AWARENESS WEEK

### HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 2004

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution declaring the week of February 22, 2004 as National Eating Disorders Awareness Week. I want to thank my friend TED STRICKLAND from Ohio for introducing this resolution with me, and for his support on this very important issue.

Conservative estimates indicate that 5 to 10 million girls and women and 1 million boys and men in the United States are struggling with eating disorders, including anorexia, bulimia, binge eating disorder, or borderline conditions. These conditions can lead to serious physical and mental health problems, yet affected individuals often do not seek treatment because of the shame and misunderstanding surrounding these disorders.

National Eating Disorders Awareness Week will serve as a way to increase public awareness of these disorders and to promote healthful eating habits and healthy body image. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this worthy endeavor, and I yield back the balance of my time.

## HONORING LOWELL STANBERRY

### HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 2004

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lowell Stanberry, a good friend and great American who has dedicated his life to helping others and fighting for what he believes.

Lowell is a legend in Dade City, Florida, which I formerly represented. He has worked hard his entire life and has been vitally important to the city's economic prosperity. He has volunteered in various capacities for numerous volunteer, civic, and philanthropic organizations which work to improve the lives of those who have lived in Lowell's community.

Lowell also has been a lifelong conservative. He was a Republican long before it was politically-expedient. "I think politics is kind of like religion," he says. "If you were born a Republican, I think you die a Republican."

He certainly has made his mark on local, state, and national politics. He helped make the Pasco County Republican Party what it is today. He has helped elect numerous public officials. I am unsure whether I would have won my first congressional election had it not been for Lowell's support. He also has been actively involved in other gubernatorial and presidential campaigns in Florida.

The East Pasco Republican Club recently honored Lowell with its Lincoln Heritage Award, which the group gives to an outstanding individual who upholds the ideals of service and intelligent compassion. I cannot think of a more deserving recipient than Lowell Stanberry.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud and honored to call Lowell a friend and fellow Republican. He has taught everyone with whom he has come into contact the importance of charity and of maintaining the courage of your convictions.

## TRIBUTE TO THE LATE MR. JOHNY CESAIRE

### HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 2004

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of Miami's unsung heroes, the late Johnny Cesaire, also known popularly by my Haitian American constituency as P Jhony of Radio Pep La. His untimely demise due to cancer last Monday, January 16, 2004, leaves a deep void in our community.

Though I have had not the opportunity of bonding with him as did my mother, Congresswoman Carrie P. Meek, I do reserve the utmost respect and genuine admiration for his insatiable quest for simple justice and fairness for the less fortunate among us, particularly our newly-arrived Haitian refugees. Throughout his 10-year stint with Radio Pep La, he vividly put a true face and a brave voice on the struggle of Haitians across Florida and beyond by portraying their unjust and inhumane treatment on the part of government, along with its discriminatory immigration laws and provisions that, to this very day, continue to impact their lives negatively.

Mr. Cesaire was virtually the resilient and unyielding voice of the Haitian community that called to attention the cruel disenfranchisement of Haitians at almost every level of government. With his support the Haitian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act (HRIFA) came about in October of 1998 to bring longed-for hope and confidence to Haitians in South Florida and throughout the nation. Thanks to him, hundreds of Haitians and their families have been given a chance to seek the freedom and legalize their status in the United States.

Our community will be in mourning on Saturday, January 31, 2004 as his friends and admirers will come together at Holy Family Church to bury this seemingly ordinary man of God, who had done some great and extraordinary things during his earthly sojourn. I will certainly miss him for his undaunted leadership.

He talked and lived by the simple adage that the quest for personal achievement is not beyond the reach of those willing to dare the impossible on behalf of a people buffeted by so much discrimination and injustice.

This is the legacy that Johnny Cesaire bequeathed to us, and it is with his nobility and compassion for the less fortunate that we will always remember him. I am greatly privileged to have been taught by him with this credo, and I thank him for giving me the honor of representing him in the U.S. Congress. I pray that God grant him Eternal Rest.