

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.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRANK W. BALLANCE, JR.

OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 2004

Mr. BALLANCE. Mr. Speaker, due to inclement weather, I was not present for rollcall votes Nos. 6 and 7. Had I been present, on rollcall vote No. 6, I would have voted "yea"; on rollcall vote No. 7, I would have voted "yea."

MEDICAL DEVICES TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 2004

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3493, the Medical Devices Technical Corrections Act of 2003. This bill will help ensure medical devices are quickly approved and sent to market as intended by the Medical Device User Fee Modernization Act of 2002. In particular, the bill will clarify FDA third-party inspection requirements to ensure companies can use third-party inspectors for two consecutive inspections. Additionally, the legislation will authorize HHS to conduct a study to identify barriers to market entry for pediatric products, which often help small populations and, therefore, are not profitable to manufacturers.

These clarifications are critical to the medical device industry in the United States, which leads the world in the development and manufacturing of medical technology. Medical device companies produce nearly \$78 billion annually and generate nearly 6 percent annual growth. The products produced by these companies have a tremendous impact on our country's economy by creating great high-paying American jobs and consistently generating annual trade surpluses in the billions of dollars.

Advances in medical technology are improving the quality of life for people around the world as new and more effective treatments for various diseases and medical conditions are developed. New medical technology also helps reduce the cost of health care and Medicare as health problems are prevented and treated more easily through early detection, less invasive procedures and faster recovery times for the patient.

The medical device industry is critical to the economy of Indiana as well as the district I represent, Indiana's 3rd district. A large majority of the nation's orthopaedic devices are produced in Warsaw, Indiana, where DePuy, Zimmer and Biomet, three of the Nation's leading companies in orthopaedic devices are located. These companies control roughly 40 percent of the global market share of orthopaedic joint replacements and generate \$4 billion dollars annually in sales. The combined economic and societal impacts of these three companies to my district and the state are highly significant. I commend the House for summarily passing H.R. 3493 and I encourage my colleagues in the other body to vote in favor of H.R. 3493, the Medical Devices Technical Corrections Act of 2003.

NATIONAL NURSE ANESTHETISTS WEEK

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 2004

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, during this week, the fifth annual National Nurse Anesthetists Week, I recognize the work of nurse anesthetists and the important role they play in the delivery of safe and effective health care. This year, millions of Americans will undergo surgery or deliver a baby, and most of them will receive their anesthesia care directly from a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA). During this week devoted to recognizing the work of CRNAs, CRNAs are celebrating their long history of providing safe anesthesia care.

I would like to thank the more than 30,000 members of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA), AANA's president, Tom McKibban, AANA's Executive Director, Jeffery Beutler, and the staff of the AANA for their effort in promoting measures to ensure that Americans across our nation have access to quality health care services at the times they need it most. More than their promotion of commonsense legislation, though, I want to thank the AANA and its members for the work they do everyday in providing excellent care for their patients in what are often challenging and trying times for these Americans and their loved ones. In addition, CRNAs practice in every setting and are the sole anesthesia provider in more than two-thirds of all rural hospitals, ensuring that most Americans can have access to care within their own community.

In addition to being a main provider within America's borders, CRNAs are also the main provider of anesthesia care to American service men and women stationed around the world. Overseas, CRNAs have been on the front lines supporting U.S. troops since World War I, and presently more than 165 nurse anesthetists are on duty in Iraq, comprising nearly 80 percent of the anesthesia providers serving in the conflict. For their service to their country and our men and women in uniform, our nation and this Congress will always be grateful.

In my own state of Georgia, there are currently 793 AANA members who provide care for the people of Georgia. I would also like to thank these CRNAs, Martha Kral, the President of the Georgia Association of Nurse Anesthetists (GANA), and Janice Izlar, GANA's Federal Political Director, for the quality health care services they provide to the people of Georgia.

It is my honor to recognize National Nurse Anesthetists Week and the work of CRNAs across the country. In the year ahead, I look forward to continuing to work with the AANA, that GANA, and CRNAs from across Georgia and across the nation to promote patient safety and to educate patients and their families about their anesthesia options and nurse anesthesia providers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 2004

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like the RECORD to show that I was unable to attend votes yesterday, January 27, 2004, due to inclement weather in Washington, DC that prevented my return. Should I have been present, I would have voted "yea" on H.R. 1385. I would have also voted "yea" on H.R. 3493, the "Medical Devices Technical Corrections Act."

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF FREDERICK AND BARBARA MCGEHAN

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two faithful public servants who are constituents of mine, Barbara and Frederick McGehan.

Fred McGehan, the Public Affairs Officer and Director of the Boulder Public Affairs Office at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Boulder, is retiring in February after 30 years of service at NIST. Barbara McGehan, the Public Affairs Officer for the NOAA Research Laboratories in Boulder, retired at the end of 2003, after 21 years of service to the Federal Government, 18 years dedicated to serving the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in Boulder. I've had the pleasure of working with both Fred and Barbara for the last five of their many years in the Federal Government.

After earning her Bachelor of Arts in History and Government at the State University of New York at Buffalo, Barbara worked for U.S. Rep. Richard McCarthy in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1965 to 1968. She worked for the Maryland Democratic Party from 1971 to 1973. She and Fred moved to Colorado in 1977, where Barb worked at the Sacred Heart of Mary Church, first on the church newsletter and later as a substitute teacher at Sacred Heart School.

In November 1985, Barbara started at NOAA in Boulder with the program that became the NOAA Forecast Systems Laboratory (FSL). She worked for FSL until 1994, when she accepted the position of Public Affairs Officer for NOAA in Boulder.

Fred graduated from Holy Cross College in Worcester, Massachusetts in 1963 with a B.A. degree in English, and afterward from Columbia University with a graduate degree in journalism. Fred put his education and training to good use by working as a general assignment reporter at the Providence Journal in Rhode Island, and then covering science, space and medicine for Newhouse National News Service and the Baltimore Sun. With his experience in news reporting under his belt, Fred began his "next career" in public affairs at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (then known as the National Bureau of Standards) in its headquarters laboratory in Gaithersburg, Maryland, in 1974.