

many spiritual and community contributions, I am proud to stand today to pay tribute to the Episcopal Church of St. Paul and St. James and its congregation as they celebrate this very special occasion. It is my hope that they will continue to serve our community for many more years to come.

COMMANDER JEFFREY THOMAS
BERNARDI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of United States Navy Commander Jeffrey Thomas Bernardi, on the occasion of his retirement following 20 years of dedicated service to our country.

Following graduation from Strongsville Senior High School, Commander Bernardi attended the United States Naval Academy, earning his degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1985. Commander Bernardi began his distinguished career as a Naval Flight Officer in 1986.

His years of service have taken him to locations around the world. From Bermuda to Sicily and a wide variety of other locations, Commander Bernardi's career exemplifies the very best of our armed services. In February of 1994, for example, he directed tactical support for the first ever P-3C Electro-Optic reconnaissance missions overland Bosnia-Herzegovina in support of Operation DENY FLIGHT.

Commander Bernardi received his Master of Arts Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College in 1996. In March of 1999, Commander Bernardi reported to the Bureau of Naval Personnel Sea Duty Component in Arlington, Virginia. He was handpicked to support the execution of a CNO Special Project of national significance.

Most recently, in April of 2003, Commander Bernardi reported to Deputy Chief of Naval Operations Assessments Division at the Pentagon. His ditties there included shaping the Navy of the future through independent analytical assessment of warfighting capabilities and Department of the Navy programs.

He has received numerous awards over his career for his dedication and commitment to this country. They include the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for heroism, Air Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, four Navy Commendation Medals, and four Navy Achievement Medals.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Commander Jeffrey Thomas Bernardi. As Commander Bernardi marks his retirement from 20 years of dedicated service to our country, I extend my congratulations and deepest thanks to him, as well as his wife, Stephanie, son, Zachary, and daughter, Jennifer.

A TRIBUTE TO CLARENCE
BOSWELL

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2005

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great Floridian, the senior member of our State's Bar, a true gentlemen in every good sense of the word, and my neighbor. Clarence A. Boswell died on February 22, 2005 at the age of 102, and for 75 years of his life he actively practiced law in my hometown of Bartow, Florida.

Clarence Boswell was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1924, and with that admission he began one of our State's longest and most distinguished legal careers. During a time when lawyers tended not to specialize, Clarence Boswell distinguished himself as an accomplished litigator, an acknowledged expert in real estate, probate and trust matters, and a beloved adviser to businesses and families both great and small.

For 50 years Clarence Boswell was recognized in the Courthouse as the determined defense counsel for the railroad. Unknowing opponents were often surprised by the tenacity with which this soft-spoken, genteel southerner defended his client's interests. As a real estate attorney, Clarence Boswell handled some of the largest real estate transactions of his time, and was used by other attorneys as an expert witness on property issues. However, the traits that most endeared him to his clients were the effective, competent and calm counsel he consistently offered those passing through his office. A local judge once referred to Clarence Boswell as a lawyer's lawyer and a gentleman's gentleman.

In his community, Clarence Boswell was a charter member of the Bartow Rotary Club when it was founded in 1924. He served on the Board of Trustees of Erskine College in Due West, SC, and as that Board's Chairman. He was a life long member of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church and served as the Moderator of that denomination's Synod. He was attorney for the Polk County School Board for forty years and was instrumental in the founding of Polk Community College.

Above all else, Clarence Boswell's greatest love was for his family and his wife of 63 years, his beloved "Toggie". He is survived by his two children, eight grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren.

Clarence Boswell was the last of a generation who were born into a time before the Depression, two great wars, and the rise of the American Century. It was a generation of men who stood, bowed and wore hats, not baseball caps that they tipped to one another in passing and removed indoors. They were people who always presented a façade of innocence, who never spoke openly of certain things, and who detested rudeness and vulgarity. Now, I am not one who cries to bring back the "good old days" but with the passage of time, we have lost in this country many good things that once spoke of manners, respect, courage and honor. Today I pay tribute to one who represented those good things, Clarence Boswell.

HONORING THE 44TH ANNUAL
YMCA YOUTH GOVERNOR'S CON-
FERENCE

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2005

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 44th Annual YMCA Youth Governor's Conference that begins in Washington, DC next week. I am pleased to once again have the honor of being the Congressional sponsor for the Youth Governor's breakfast with my fellow colleagues in the House.

The YMCA Youth Governor's Conference brings together some of the most outstanding youth leaders in America. YMCA Youth and Government is a nation-wide program that allows thousands of teenagers to simulate state and national government.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to personally recognize each of this year's YMCA Youth Governors for their dedication and service to America's youth.

Hunter Patterson of Texas, Quentin James of South Carolina, Forrest McConnell of Alabama, Matthew Hughes of Arizona, Paul Gardner, III of California, Daniel Spellacy of Connecticut, Mansoor Zaman of Delaware, Taylor Siegel of Florida, Britt Bush of Georgia, Colin Clark of Illinois, Phil Reaves of Indiana, Arshya Saiyed of Kentucky, Ty Bottoms of Kentucky, Beau Landry of Louisiana, Matt Gorman of Maine, Karima Tawfiq, Amar Gupta of Massachusetts, Elissa Laskey of Michigan, Marvin Yates of Michigan, Jonathan Kent of Minnesota, Laura Kergosien of Mississippi, Sam Barrett of Missouri, Paul Morgan of Montana, Erik Ruediger of New Hampshire, Mohit Shah of New Jersey, Anne Baldwin of New Mexico, Andrew Vigliotta of New York, Niema Alimohammadi of North Carolina, Caroline DuWors of Ohio, Tony Viola of Oklahoma, William Glennie of Oregon, Davon Magwood of Pennsylvania, Dusty Good of Tennessee, Gentry Martin of Tennessee, Josh Tate of Virginia, Addison Tice of Washington, Janesse Lewis of the District of Columbia, and Iain Padley of Wisconsin.

I wish all of the 2005 YMCA Youth Governors a very successful conference here in Washington, and I encourage them to continue their sincere devotion to leadership and public service in this and their future endeavors.

THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF
POLYTECHNIC PREPARATORY
COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2005

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Polytechnic Preparatory Country Day School. The school is a pillar of academic excellence in Brooklyn, New York. It is a true privilege to acknowledge the great strides Poly Prep has made over the years since it first opened its doors in 1854.

Since its inception as the Brooklyn Collegiate and Polytechnic Institute, the Polytechnic

Preparatory Country Day School has immersed its students in outstanding academic programs and provided a strong, supportive community. Like New York City, the school has opened its doors to students from all over the world, representing an array of cultures, languages and traditions. That commitment to diversity speaks volumes about Poly Prep's illustrious history.

The school's 150th anniversary provides a hallmark for reflection on Poly Prep's tireless efforts to provide a diverse and educationally sound environment which has led its students to academic success. Therefore, on behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I congratulate the Polytechnic Preparatory Country Day School on the occasion of its 150th anniversary—its Sesquicentennial—for its efforts toward educational excellence and providing an environment that is as diverse and rich in experience and tradition as New York City itself.

TRIBUTE TO DARA FELDMAN

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2005

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to congratulate my constituent, Dara Feldman, on receiving the 2005 Disney Teacher Award. The award was given in recognition of her creativity, innovative teaching methods, and ability to inspire her students.

Ms. Feldman, a kindergarten teacher at Garrett Park Elementary School, is being recognized for her efforts in the areas of Early Childhood Education. Her commitment to teaching results in a creative, high-tech kindergarten where children learn about the wonder of the world in which they live. Ms. Feldman hosts internet exchanges between her kindergarten students and kindergartners in other parts of the world. This year, her students corresponded with students in Southeast Asia who were victims of last December's tsunami.

Ms. Feldman's creativity and dedication to teaching have made her one of only 45 honorees selected from more than 50,000 nominations worldwide. Teachers like Dara Feldman are making profound contributions to the future of our country and provide a beautiful example of how America's teachers can excel.

I applaud Dara Feldman and wish her continued success in the years ahead.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION FOR FREEDOM ACT OF 2005

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2005

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Higher Education for Freedom Act. This legislation establishes a competitive grant program making available funds to institutions of higher education, centers within such institutions, and associated nonprofit foundations. These grants would promote programs focused on the teaching and study of traditional Amer-

ican history, free institutions, and the history and achievements of Western Civilization at both the graduate and undergraduate level, including those that serve students enrolled in K-12 teacher education programs.

Several years ago I was involved in a congressional effort to highlight the decline in historical and civic literacy among American college students. This effort led to the unanimous, bicameral passage of S. Con. Res. 129 which stated, in part, that "the historical illiteracy of America's college and university graduates is a serious problem that should be addressed by the Nation's higher education community."

Given the increased threat to American ideals in the trying times in which we live, it is easy to see how the lack of historical and civic literacy among today's college students has become a more pressing issue. Nevertheless, most of the Nation's colleges and universities no longer require United States history or systematic study of Western civilization and free institutions as a general prerequisite to graduation, or for completing a teacher education program.

I believe it is time for Congress to take a more active role in addressing this matter. Our country's higher education system must do a better job of providing the basic knowledge that is essential to full and informed participation in civic life and to the larger vibrancy of the American experiment in self-government, binding together a diverse people into a single Nation with common purposes.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. JOON BANG

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge Dr. Joon Bang. Dr. Bang is President of the Korean American Youth Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of Korean American youth. He has been involved since 1993 with Foundation.

The Foundation's mission is to help Korean American youth develop a positive, healthy identity through self-awareness, career planning, and mentoring. Every year, the Foundation sponsors an essay contest titled "What America Means to Me" for Korean American youth that awards college scholarships to the winners. In 2001 the Foundation collaborated with WNET Channel 13 to expand the contest to include young people of all backgrounds.

The Foundation raises money to create an annual career forum for Asian American youth presented by the Flushing branch of the YWCA and the Korean American Network. It also sponsors Korean cultural events and performances for the community that attracts performers from across the country. Dr. Bang is also a member of the Advisory Board for Youth Affairs for the Institute of Korean-American Studies, Inc. (ICAS in Philadelphia).

Dr. Bang has devoted his time to introducing positive images of the Korean American community to the metropolitan area through public television. In 1994, he founded "Korean Friend's of Channel 13" and served as president until 1999. In this capacity, he helped WNET Channel 13 develop a number of fundraising events to assist the March 1999

production of "Korean American Spirits," a documentary featuring the lives of Korean Americans in the tri-state area. The program raised more than \$140,000 for public broadcasting. For his contributions, Dr. Bang was named the 1997 recipient of the National Friends of Public Broadcasting and Elaine Peterson Distinguished Service Award.

Dr. Bang was born in Korea and graduated from the Medical College, Seoul National University, in Seoul, Korea in 1970. He came to the United States in 1973 and became a board-certified internist in 1978. He is an internist at the New York Methodist Hospital in Brooklyn.

Dr. Bang is the recipient of the 2001 Caring for Children Award. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Joon Bang has continuously demonstrated through his humanitarian efforts to improve the lives of the people in his community that he is more than worthy of our recognition today.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE FOURTH ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF WOMEN IN THE LAW

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the state of New York's fourth annual Celebration of Women in the Law. On May 25th, 10 Western New York women were honored for their outstanding contributions to the bench and the bar. The event, hosted by the state's Gender and Racial Fairness Committee, is both inspiring and heartening. I would humbly like to submit brief descriptions of the careers of some of these remarkable women to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I hope all of the honorees are proud of their achievements; I know that I am proud to serve as their representative in Congress.

Genevieve Capizzi has come a long way since starting out as a clerical assistant in the Buffalo City court 27 years ago. Due to her perseverance and strong work ethic, she is currently the principal administrative assistant for the 8th Judicial district. In 2003 Ms. Capizzi was awarded the Office of Court Administration's Quality Service Award for her leadership and service.

Chautauqua county Family Court Judge Judith Claire graduated from SUNY at Buffalo Law School and has become a pioneer for women in the legal profession in Western New York. Not only was Judge Claire the only practicing female attorney in the Chautauqua county when she first arrived in 1978, but in 1999 Judge Claire became the first and only woman to be elected to a countywide judgeship. In 2004 she was appointed to New York State Family Court Advisory and Rules committee that helps formulate policy and recommends amendments to state laws.

Helen Ferraro-Zaffram is concentrated in the practice of elder-law. Ms. Ferraro-Zaffram previously held a position as a staff attorney for legal services for the elderly, disabled and disadvantaged of New York. Helen was nominated for this award by Supreme Court justices who recognized her tireless efforts on behalf of the elderly.

Ilene Fleischmann leads a busy life serving as the associate dean of the University of Buffalo Law School. She is the editor of the UB