

BROOKLYN REMEMBERS

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, on May 17th, I was joined by 9/11 families, elected officials, and community leaders to unveil Brooklyn's official memorial dedicated to the events of September 11, 2001. This memorial pays tribute to the 283 men and women of King's County killed on that horrific day. The air was filled with sadness in the days and months that followed. Because of this, in October of 2001, I along with State Senator Marty Golden, realized that a memorial was the best way to honor the lives of these brave men and women. Within days community leaders organized a committee to raise private funds and started the process to design a memorial and make it a reality. Realizing that this was not only a New York State issue but also a national one, I worked hard to secure \$50,000 to begin the groundwork for the memorial.

The memorial, entitled the "Beacon," soars 25 feet in the air and is shaped like a speaking trumpet to resemble the device once used by the volunteer fire brigades of New York City to transmit warnings to the crowd and give orders to the firefighters. The thoughtfulness and simplicity of the design is second to none. It directly reflects the Bay Ridge community and the residents of King's County New York. The memorial was placed at the 69th Street Pier. This was fitting with its broad vista's of the harbor and downtown Manhattan, as it was the location to which many Brooklynites went to watch the tragic events of September 11, 2001 unfold.

Those whose lives were lost on September 11 will remain in our thoughts and prayers forever. The "Beacon" will help all of us, not only New Yorkers, but those all over our great Nation keep alive the names and memories of those who are no longer with us. It will allow us to remember their sacrifice and honor their lives. The memorial will serve as a reminder to future generations that our freedom must be cherished and never taken for granted because so many gave their lives in its name.

I would like to personally praise the outstanding efforts of the memorial committee. They raised the necessary funding, established a selection process, chose an outstanding artist, and organized the beautiful ceremony. They devoted their time and efforts without any compensation or recompense. Without their continued efforts and determination this memorial would not have been possible.

I would like to enter into the RECORD the names of the Brooklyn Remembers Committee:

Stephen Harrison, Robert Howe, Basil Capetanakis, Richard Conti, William Guarinello, Patrick Condren, Gene Brody, Howard Feuer, Denise Virga, Serge Allegretti, Corrado Manfredi, Craig Eaton, Joseph Caruanna, Anthony Troia.

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE
EDUCATION ACT OF 2005**HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, while teenage dating violence often does not get the widespread attention that adult domestic violence receives, it is no less of an insidious epidemic. Currently, girls and women between the ages of 16 and 24 are the most vulnerable to domestic violence, experiencing the highest per capita rates of non-fatal intimate partner violence. One-third of teens report experiencing some kind of abuse in their romantic relationships and approximately one in five adolescent girls report being physically or sexually hurt by a dating partner.

Both CNN and ABC News have recently run reports on the tragic consequences of teen dating violence. In one such incident, an Austin, Texas 16-year-old star football player stabbed his 15-year-old girlfriend to death. The perpetrator of this crime had a history of teen dating violence that started when he was in the 8th grade. This horrifying incident may have been preventable had the victim of this crime or his previous girlfriends had full access to information about legal steps they could have taken to ensure they would not be in further danger.

Unfortunately, this act of violence is not an isolated incidence. These situations play themselves out across this nation. Dating violence cuts across ethnic, racial and socio-economic lines.

We can take affirmative steps to ensure that this type of tragedy is not repeated in other forms. Preventative action is necessary.

Today, I introduce legislation that will empower young victims of dating violence with information about their legal rights. The "Teenage Dating Violence Education Act of 2005" mandates that domestic violence educational programs geared towards elementary and high school students include information about the legal rights of teenage victims of dating violence.

It is not enough to tell students that abusive relationships are wrong. We also need to specifically inform them on the various ways they can get out of those relationships. The legal system is one place they can turn. They deserve to know about these recourses. For victims of dating violence, knowledge really is power.

Teenagers who engage in dating violence in this country need to know that there are legal ramifications for their actions. Teenage victims of dating violence need to know that mechanisms in the legal system exist to help them.

Educating teenagers in this area is a matter of safety and a matter of common sense. We can do our part to make sure the cycle of violence is not perpetuated. We must do our part.

I ask my colleagues today to join me in support of this vital piece of legislation.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF MISS
SARAH GRACE POTTER**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today, I am happy to congratulate Jim and Karen Potter of Potomac Falls, Virginia, on the birth of their beautiful baby girl. Sarah Grace Potter was born Wednesday at 12:37 p.m., weighing 7 pounds, 15 ounces and measuring 21 inches long. Sarah has been born into a loving home, where she will be raised by parents who are devoted to her well-being and bright future. Her birth is a blessing.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO NAME THE "JOHN LEWIS
CIVIL RIGHTS INSTITUTE"**HON. DAVID SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce legislation to honor the senior Member from the state of Georgia and my friend, JOHN LEWIS, for his work as an engineer of the civil rights movement. Along with my colleague in the other body, Senator SAXBY CHAMBLISS, I proudly put my name as the original sponsor of this bill to name a historic building near the center of the struggle for equality—Auburn Avenue in Atlanta, Georgia—as the "John Lewis Civil Rights Institute."

Without question, Congressman LEWIS' work in the civil rights movement was crucial to the success of that struggle. He grew up in Alabama, and was inspired to get involved after hearing reports of the Montgomery bus boycott, orchestrated by the young Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. As a student at Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, Congressman LEWIS began organizing sit-ins at segregated lunch counters. He also participated in the freedom rides, challenging segregated bus stations across the South. For these simple acts of non-violent resistance, JOHN LEWIS was often violently physically attacked. But his resolve did not waver.

Congressman LEWIS served as Chairman of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) which students of history recall as the central group working to organize and publicize the demonstrations by young people which were occurring across the region. This increasingly high-profile work lead him to be named as one of the "Big Six" leaders of the movement, and brought about his role as a speaker at the March on Washington in August 1963, a political and cultural event that changed the course of the nation.

But Congressman LEWIS' life-threatening commitment to change did not end there. In 1965, Congressman LEWIS led over 600 non-violent protesters in the march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama. Through the gripping media coverage of this disturbing event, the rest of America was finally forced to confront the violence and injustice being perpetrated against African Americans.

And his work for civil rights continues to this day. From his work during the height of the

civil rights movement, to his time as a Presidential appointee during the Carter Administration, to his service as an elected official first on the Atlanta City Council and finally as a Member of Congress, JOHN LEWIS has never wavered.

The victories our country can claim in this fight are in no small part due to the selfless sacrifices of JOHN LEWIS. For his humble service, for his commitment to justice and equality for all people, he deserves to be honored in this small way. I call on my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in working for the swift passage of this legislation.

CONGRATULATING THE SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, CHAPTER OF UNICO NATIONAL ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the Scranton Chapter of UNICO National on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

Built from the initiative of Dr. D.J. Maldonado and Attorney John Morano, among others, the Scranton Chapter of UNICO was chartered in June 1955 and immediately began supporting community efforts through scholarships and the then Boys' Club.

Over the years, the Scranton Chapter of UNICO has grown in generosity and prestige, supporting scholarships for college students at six local colleges, supporting the good work of the St. Francis of Assisi Kitchen and the now Boys and Girls Club.

Scranton UNICO also contributes to the national effort to find a cure for cancer through the UNICO V Foundation.

Scranton UNICO also supports Italian studies through book donations and language classes.

Scranton UNICO promotes convivial camaraderie among its 330 members, the largest UNICO chapter in the United States of America.

UNICO was founded in 1922 as an Italian American service organization dedicated to performing good works as a means of uplifting the prestige of its members. UNICO stands for unity, neighborliness, integrity, charity and opportunity. The motto of UNICO is "service above self."

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Scranton chapter of UNICO as its members celebrate their 50th anniversary. Time and time again, UNICO members distinguish themselves by helping others and making their community a much better place to live.

TRIBUTE TO FRANK TING-KUO CHEN

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I pay tribute today to the life of

Frank Ting-Kuo Chen, a man whose contributions to family and community cannot be understated. Frank was a man of great compassion and character. He will be deeply missed, but always be fondly remembered.

Frank's life is a true example of the achievement of the American Dream. Mr. Chen was born on January 1, 1941, in Taipei, Taiwan, the seventh child in a family of five sons and three daughters. In 1965 he married his love, Cha Cheng Chen, and they went on to celebrate 40 years of marriage.

Frank began his own company in Taiwan in 1970, where he manufactured and traded products that were distributed across the United States. He went on to hold several positions in public office, including serving as District Representative for the Chung Shan district in Taipei from 1976 to 1977. Frank had a passion for reading and worked for the newspapers China Post and the Stars and Stripes.

In 1977 Frank moved to the United States to give his children a better education. He settled in Moreno Valley, California, where he expanded his business and went on to achieve his lifelong dream of sending his children to college. Even with Frank's successful business career, he always made time for his wife and family. He is survived by Cha Cheng Chen, and his children, Suzanne, Ping and Lee.

Frank tirelessly devoted himself to his community, and in particular to facilitating the cultural exchange of Chinese Americans in the greater Los Angeles area. He was involved with numerous civic organizations in Southern California, and in particular the Chinese Students Association of the University of California at Riverside. He was later appointed as an official delegate of Taiwan's Overseas Chinese Affairs Commission, where he dedicated himself to providing assistance to immigrants and new residents in the Inland Empire. In 1988, he founded and served as President of the Inland Chinese Association, which has since grown to over 1,000 members. In 1989, he spearheaded the establishment of the first Inland Empire Chinese Language School. He later also led the movement to establish the Chinese Pavilion, a major landmark in downtown Riverside, to commemorate the early Chinese immigrants who inhabited the area in the late 19th century.

Although Frank is no longer with us, his legacy will never leave us. He dedicated his life to his family and his community, and in doing so improved the lives of thousands. His life is an example to all of us of how one person can make a difference. We are all truly better for having known Frank Ting-Kuo Chen.

SCIENCE, STATE, JUSTICE, COMMERCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2862) making appropriations for Science, the Departments of

State, Justice, and Commerce, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes:

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Chairman, today, Congressman WEINER offered an amendment to H.R. 2862, the Science, State, Justice & Commerce Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2006. Representative WEINER's amendment, which ultimately failed, would have restored \$126 million to the COPS program to help state and local governments hire police officers. The offset for the amendment came from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and would have returned that agency's funding to Fiscal Year 2004 levels, which actually represents a \$30 million increase over what NSF received for Fiscal Year 2005. I voted for the amendment, because I believe and support the important work the COPS program allows, but I was troubled by the offset, knowing how important science and research are to my community.

I voted for Mr. WEINER's amendment because I have seen firsthand how important COPS programs are to local cities and communities like Cheektowaga, Jamestown and Dunkirk in my district in Western New York. In fact, since 1994, \$25,609,762 in COPS grants have been awarded to law enforcement agencies in the 27th District of New York. These grants have funded 329 additional police officers and sheriffs' deputies to engage in community policing activities including crime prevention. In my district, 29 local and state law enforcement agencies have directly benefited from funding made available through the COPS Office, \$1,848,680 has been awarded to add 16 school resources officers to improve safety for students, teachers, and administrators in primary and secondary schools and \$3,268,820 has been awarded for crimefighting technologies. This funding has allowed officers to spend more time on the streets preventing crime through timesaving technology, information-sharing systems, and improved communications equipment.

Sadly, our underlying appropriations bill zeroes out funding for the COPS program, leaving local governments to foot the bill. Cutting the COPS program altogether is unacceptable—it is one of our most useful and successful tools in reducing crime.

I also recognize the importance of the NSF, which provides funding and guidance to laboratories, universities and research centers across the country. In New York State in Fiscal Year 2003, the NSF provided over 1,672 awards totaling approximately \$389 million to more than 142 institutions in the State of New York as well as \$1,816,000 in fellowships.

While I regret the offset of the amendment and the need to transfer NSF funding to allow the COPS program to continue, NSF would still have received more in Fiscal Year 2006 than it did in Fiscal Year 2005 to continue its mission. The COPS program, however, without Congressional action on the House floor, will cease to exist. Mr. Speaker, that is why I supported Representative WEINER's amendment.