

fields that significantly contribute to our Nation's economy.

Under Dr. McDemmond's leadership, Norfolk State University's reputation as a leading minority-serving institution has soared. Dr. McDemmond's vision has also helped to bridge both the digital divide and opportunity divide at several Historically Black colleges and other universities. Her innovative style, while working with other leading educators and government officials, contributed to these great successes will benefit the entire higher education community for many years to come.

I am pleased to rise in honor Dr. Marie McDemmond, a true education leader who embodies Norfolk State University's creed of "Achieving with Excellence."

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
PANGERE CORPORATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2005

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and pleasure that I stand before you today to recognize the many accomplishments of the Pangere Corporation throughout its 100 years of service in Northwest Indiana. To commemorate this special occasion, the Pangere Corporation will be holding an anniversary celebration on September 24, 2005, at the Center for Visual and Performing Arts in Munster, Indiana.

John T. Pangere established The Pangere Corporation in 1905 as an industrial painting contracting company. He built the framework of a company that today offers a complete line of construction services. Because their roots are in Gary and they wanted to give back to the community what it had given them over the years, the Pangere family built its headquarters in the center of Gary, Indiana. Northwest Indiana has certainly been rewarded by the true service and uncompromising dedication this company has displayed to the community.

Throughout its growth and expansion, the officers and owners of the Pangere Corporation have strived to maintain the corporate culture and values of being a family business. The Pangere family recognizes the need and importance of community involvement. The company contributes financially to many charitable and community organizations and its employees are encouraged to participate in community events. Steve Pangere has given his time and efforts selflessly to the people of Northwest Indiana. He serves as a board member of several charitable organizations and he has taught his employees the true meaning of service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating the Pangere Corporation on their 100th Anniversary. This company has contributed to the growth and development of the economy of the First Congressional District. Their service and devotion deserves the highest commendation, and I am proud to represent them in Congress.

MEETING OF THE IRANIAN HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY CAUCUS

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2005

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, please submit the following transcript from the June 25, 2005 meeting of the Iranian Human Rights and Democracy Caucus for the RECORD.

Congressman Tom Tancredo: We are going to be talking about the election in Iran and the aftermath of the election. According to reports the mullahs employed a variety of methods to get Mahmood Ahmadinejad elected and including the use of 5 million national ID cards of the deceased, voting with unofficial ID cards, voting with both passports and birth certificates outside of Iran to allow the mullahs men to write in their votes twice, paying \$15.5 million 300,000 members of the parliamentary Bassij force in support of a particular candidate, buying votes for \$35.00 each in many provinces, furthermore in recent years we have learned critical information about the mullahs of nuclear program. Since then the international community has come to better appreciate the extent of Iran's involvement in terrorist activity abroad, nuclear ambitions and interference in Iraq, Lebanon and Palestine. It would be a monumental error if we assume that the mullahs are reformable, can tolerate intellectually progress and regional or international peace. I look forward to the testimony of today's witnesses and I hope they can illuminate for us Iran's recent elections and their implications for the U.S. and the world.

Dr. Kenneth Katzman (Excerpt): Congressional Research Service—The twists and turns of the Iranian presidential election in 2005 might indicate that Iranian politics are more vibrant and less scripted than some experts, and some Administration officials appear to believe. On the other hand, Bush Administration criticism of the Council of Guardians' heavy hand in candidate selection—and eliminating of all women candidates from the competition—is accurate. . . . Although Iranian voters apparently did not vote for him because of his foreign policy positions, his victory has now ensured a hardliner lock on virtually all major institutions—the Supreme Leadership, the Council of Guardians, 6 clerics appointed by Khamenei plus 6 jurists appointed by the judiciary, the Majles, the Expediency Council, and now the presidency and government ministries. The 86-seat Assembly of Experts is elected. Reformists are now virtually shut out. . . . Potential alterations to Tehran's bargaining strategies at the nuclear talks with the so-called "EU-3", Britain, France, and Germany, are perhaps harder to judge. During his second round campaign, Ahmadinejad pointedly criticized the Foreign Ministry negotiators as too willing to make dramatic concessions in order to reach a deal with the EU-3. Those penalties will likely be the subject of discussion between the United States and its European allies.

Professor Raymond Tanter (Excerpt): Iran Policy Committee—With regard to the turnout in the June 2005 Iranian elections, a Council on Foreign Relations analyst referenced Iran's notorious Ministry of Intelligence and Security to validate the regime's announced turnout numbers. . . . I think if disinformation means anything it means that you don't go to the Ministry of Intelligence and Security to find out what the turnout is! I've heard reports from some of the smaller cities in Iran that the opposi-

tion-led boycott was very effective. The turnout was between 10 percent and 20 percent not the regime's inflated figure of over 50 percent. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out that the lower the turnout rate, the less the legitimacy of that government. . . . In addition, the so-called election was actually a "selection" because the Supreme Leader Khamenei handpicked candidates in advance of the vote. He started nearly two years ago to have the revolutionary guards take control over all organs of the regime. This power play did not begin a month before the June elections. There was some internal dissent, and Khamenei thought it was important for him to control all organs of power. . . . President Bush deserves credit for condemning the "sham selections" and hence de-legitimizing them in advance.

Here is a three-point plan of the Iran Policy Committee to facilitate regime change in Iran. First, remove the Mujaheddin-e Khalq from the Foreign Terrorist Organizations list. Secondly, expand U.S. funding for Iranian opposition groups and nongovernmental organizations committed to democratic change in Iran, including the Mujaheddin-e Khalq and related groups. Thirdly, invite Iranian opposition leaders to the White House and to the Congress; these leaders would include leaders of the Mujaheddin-e Khalq and members of the National Council of Resistance of Iran.

Congressman Tom Tancredo: It does seem, listening to you, there is a ray of sunshine and you both have just let shine on this because, would we be Pollyannaish to think and that it is good that he is going to disavow any foreign investment and therefore any internationalization of the economy, those oil revenues will be less effective perhaps and the mischief making, then they otherwise would be if the economy were to thrive under a more expansive or more open arrangement.

Congressman Tom Tancredo: I would like to recognize a member who has joined us, congressman Clay.

Congressman William Lacy Clay: I appreciate hearing from Dr. Tanter and the other witnesses here, defined out their take on the recent elections in Iran. Let me also say that it's OK to mention Florida, you can also mention Ohio. This is a bipartisan committee [laughter] I'm delighted to be here, it's a pleasure, thank you.

Ilan Berman (Excerpt): American Foreign Policy Council—. . . A great deal of think has been spilt in recent weeks in an attempt to game the Iranian elections. The art of predicting have the next president is going to be has been elevated to high drama, certainly on the editorial pages that we've all read. Also I think it's important to note that most of this analysis has been spectacularly wrong, not just wrong but spectacularly wrong. . . . The power centers within the Islamic Republic are fully consolidated under the leadership of the Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei. In the past, the outgoing President Mohammad Khatami had succeeded on a very notable but very few and far between occasions on breaking with the clerical leadership and doing so publicly. With the rise of Mr. Ahmadinejad such descent is more than likely going to become a thing of the past. Given his political leanings and his revolutionary credentials he is likely to steer the Iranian presidency into the out right rubber stamp of the clerical leadership. That is the first implication. . . . Second is that Mr. Ahmadinejad's ascendance to power actually mirrors a deeper political shift that has taken place within that the Iranian politics

over the last couple of years. The reformists we now all see are in retreat and internal political changes have shifted power and shifted power dramatically to a cadre of clerical hardliners who are committed to revitalizing and even expanding the Islamic revolution. . . . Iran in short, constitutes a mounting strategic challenge to the United States and also to U.S. objectives and the broader Middle East and the war on terror. Unfortunately, and I use the same caviar and the Dr. Katzman did, that these are my views alone, the White House seems to have failed to articulate a comprehensive strategy towards addressing, not only the nuclear program but also the broader strategic threat from the Iranian regime and I think I'd like to conclude by saying that this is a high time in a good benchmark for us to urge to change that policy and to actually adopt a proactive approach.

Question from VOA: I'm wondering what the future relations between Iran and the United States and I see it as stage that there is a divergence between the European in the U.S. concerns. The EU is welcoming the elections and the Americans are denouncing the elections. What do you see as the future of Iran, U.S. EU relations and negotiations on the nuclear issue?

Congressman Tom Tancredo: I think we will have quite a tussle over the possibility of sanctions we mentioned earlier that if they do have an effect and I would imagine that will be arguing with our friends in Europe about things like that. Is not surprising to me that we see this divergence of opinion between Europe and the United States with regard to Iran but I have to admit myself that I have a hard time understanding the opinions that are being expressed about the president. I think to some degree our State Department is a reflection of Europe. We're going to be very pragmatic about this, we may not like it but that's the way it is and we'll make the best of it. That's the pragmatic view and I think that Europe takes that and I would say the more realistic view is that we have to change the situation. The status quo is not acceptable, it's far too dangerous. But I don't know that my opinion will be the one taken by the administration.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE EDEN
LODGE NO. 46

HON. TOM PRICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2005

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and enthusiasm that I congratulate the Eden Lodge No. 46 as they join together to celebrate their 110th birthday along with their sister chapter King Solomon Chapter No. 42 celebrating their 103rd anniversary.

Located in the city of Marietta, the Eden Lodge and King Solomon Chapter have a rich heritage and continue to serve the Cobb Community and beyond.

The Eden Lodge began in 1894 and the lodge proceeded to grow in the years that followed. After the Great Depression and the hard times that followed during World War II the Eden Lodge was reactivated and grew its strength when in 1961 Eden Lodge built its Masonic Hall.

I would especially like to commend the following members for their leadership and active

participation in the Eden Lodge: Emanuel Wil-son, Charles Ferguson, Sr., Charles E. Bartlett, Sr., Reginald H. Kemp, Joseph L. Collins, and Mario L. Eury.

With pride, I recognize the Eden Lodge for its 110 years and the King Solomon Chapter for its 103 years of offering a place of fellowship and friendship to the people of Marietta, Georgia and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all Members to join me in honoring and congratulating the membership for their remarkable achievements.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOM-
PLISHMENTS OF PUBLISHING
PIONEER JOHN H. JOHNSON

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2005

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of innovator and publishing pioneer John H. Johnson. After living a remarkably accomplished life that spanned 87 years, John H. Johnson passed on Monday, August 8, 2005.

By embracing positive portrayals of African-Americans, John Johnson's vision and innovation forever shaped the way African-Americans are portrayed in the media and advertising. At a time when media representations of blacks were mostly damaging and stereotypical, Mr. Johnson produced publications that highlighted African-American accomplishments and success.

This innovation and foresight brought together the African-American community. By giving African-Americans something to rally around, he instilled a sense of unity among the black community and created a positive identity. In addition, John Johnson successfully guided the mainstream media and corporations to expand outreach to blacks.

It has been said that the ultimate measure of a person's life is the extent to which they made the world a better place. John H. Johnson's work has forever shaped the African-American community. His contributions will always be remembered. We were all greatly saddened to learn of the passing of John H. Johnson.

A PROCLAMATION IN MEMORY OF
WALTER ZALESNY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, I hereby offer my heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Walter Zalesny; and

Whereas, Walter Zalesny will be remembered by his son Barry, his daughters Sharon and Fran, his four grandchildren and seven great granddaughters; and

Whereas, Walter Zalesny was born in Wegee, OH, and resided in Bellaire, OH; and

Whereas, Walter Zalesny served in the Belmont County Engineer's Office and was a

loyal member of the VFW and American Legion and a devout Presbyterian; and

Whereas, Walter Zalesny will be remembered for his service in the U.S. Navy and for his ability to touch so many lives;

Therefore, while I understand how words cannot express our grief at this most trying of times, I offer this token of profound sympathy to the family and friends of Walter Zalesny.

NATIONAL BACKPACK AWARENESS
DAY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2005

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, as September 21, 2005 is National School Backpack Awareness Day, I would like to recognize the many occupational therapists that live and work in my district. Each September, the American Occupational Therapy Association's (AOTA) members, students, and other health professionals join forces to alert the public, particularly teachers, parents, and children about the dangers of overweight backpacks and improper use.

Occupational therapy is a health, wellness, and rehabilitation service provided by qualified professionals whose expertise includes anatomy, physiology, psychology and other disciplines. Thousands of occupational therapists work with children in school systems, pediatric hospitals, and other health care facilities everyday to improve skills that will help them perform daily tasks at home, at school, and at play.

The AOTA is sponsoring its fourth annual National School Backpack Awareness Day to promote healthy backpack use among students. The goal of the National School Backpack Awareness Day is to reduce the load being carried to fifteen percent or less of a child's weight, to educate them on the risks of carrying too much weight and the proper ways to pack and wear their backpacks.

Over 700 participants in schools, stores, health fairs, and other areas from all fifty states will take part to "weigh-in" over 200,000 children and ensure their backpacks are fifteen percent or less of their weight. As part of the 2005 Healthy Families Community Fair in Clinton, MI in October, children and their families will be able to learn about the importance of loading and wearing backpacks the right way to avoid back and shoulder pain or strain, stooped posture, musculoskeletal pain, and aching heads.

In schools, occupational therapists use their unique expertise to help children to be prepared for and perform important learning and school-related activities and to fulfill their role as students. Additionally, they play a critical role in training parents, other staff members, and caregivers regarding the education, health, and success of students with diverse learning needs.

Please join me in support of all the school children, occupational therapists, and participants of the 2005 National School Backpack Awareness Day.