

COMMENDING WINTHROP UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL FOR RECEIVING THIS YEAR'S DISTINGUISHED HOSPITAL AWARD FOR CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mrs. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend Winthrop University Hospital, which is located in my home town of Mineola, NY, for receiving this year's Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence.

Each year HealthGrades, an independent national healthcare quality ratings company, rates the quality of our Nation's hospitals and recognizes hospitals in the top tier for their performance. The Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence is based on clinical outcomes and quality data collected by the Federal government through the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Winthrop University Hospital has received this award and has ranked among the top 5 percent of all acute-care hospitals in the country for overall clinical excellence two years in a row. Both Winthrop's cardiac and stroke treatment services were specifically recognized for providing outstanding care. In addition, Winthrop received a 5-star rating for their treatment of pneumonia, was rated "Best in Area" for their Pulmonary Services and ranked among the top five percent in the Nation for their Gastrointestinal Medical Services.

As a nurse for over thirty years before being elected to Congress, I know the difference superior medical care makes for a patient in the treatment and recovery process. Having access to quality medical services can mean the difference between life and death.

I am proud that such a high quality medical facility is located in my community, and I thank Winthrop and its talented staff for their dedication and commitment to providing patients and families with such outstanding care.

COMMENDING THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION AND THE GO RED FOR WOMEN CAMPAIGN

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my deepest appreciation to the American Heart Association and its national Go Red for Women campaign and for raising public awareness of cardiovascular disease, which is the number-one killer of women in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, the impact of cardiovascular disease in the United States is truly shocking, as heart disease and stroke claim the lives of nearly 500,000 women each year. This number accounts for 43 percent of all female deaths annually, which is more than the next seven causes of death combined and nearly twice as many as all forms of cancer. In addition, nearly eight million American women are currently living with heart disease, 35 percent of those women being the age of 45 or older.

Obviously, this is an issue that deserves the attention of not only health care professionals

and policymakers, but the general public as well, and the American Heart Association should be commended for its efforts to bring the issue of cardiovascular disease to the forefront. The Go Red for Women campaign has raised public awareness and continues to provide women with the education and tools necessary to overcome this terrible disease. By empowering women to take control of their health through exercise, healthy eating, and careful monitoring of their blood pressure and cholesterol, the AHA has made it possible for them to reduce their risk of heart disease and live long, healthy lives.

Mr. Speaker, I again wish to express my deepest appreciation to the American Heart Association for its efforts to educate the people of the United States about the dangers of cardiovascular disease.

RECOGNIZING THE DENTON COUNTY NAACP

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, as we approach the 96th Anniversary since the founding of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) it gives me great honor to recognize the Denton County NAACP for their continued support of equality and justice in the 26th District of Texas. I also congratulate the Denton County NAACP on the election of their new officers: President, Catherine Bell; Vice President, Vanessa Sims; Secretary, Brenda Crawford; Treasurer, Carol Hinkle-Kuykendahl; Assistant Secretary, Cassandra Berry; and Assistant Treasurer, Tonya Demerson.

It is the historic fight of the NAACP for civil, political and social equality which has significantly advanced the causes of democracy and freedom, and continues to improve the status of African Americans in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, this week in Congress I have voted in favor of legislation honoring the Tuskegee Airmen and supporting the goals and ideals of National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. I can think of no better time to pay tribute to the rich history of the NAACP and to congratulate the local chapter on the installment of their new officers.

HONORING CONTRIBUTIONS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

SPEECH OF

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 23, a resolution that honors the contributions of Catholic schools and supports the goals of Catholic Schools Week.

The many accomplishments of Catholic schools and their positive impact on students and communities throughout the nation is evident in the Fifth Congressional District of Illinois, where schools such as St. Pascal Elementary, St. Bartholomew Elementary and

Gordon Technical High School provide a quality education while instilling values that will serve their students throughout their lives. These schools provide strong academic curricula and promote significant parental involvement. They teach students the importance of academic achievement while also providing a balanced perspective on life that promotes responsibility, justice and social service.

Catholic schools also promote ethnic and racial diversity. An increasing number of children in Catholic schools in my district come from our minority communities. Students in Catholic schools achieve exceptionally high graduation rates, and an increasing number are advancing to college and giving back to the community through volunteer service.

Catholic schools foster more than scholastic excellence alone. They provide spiritual guidance to students by encouraging fundamental ideals and an appreciation for family values, community service, and faith in their own lives. This, in turn, shapes Catholic school students into leaders of tomorrow.

I want to take this opportunity to applaud the recent accomplishments of the 2005 "Heart of the School" award winners. Each year, the Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic Schools presents these awards to recognize outstanding and innovative accomplishments of individual teachers at Archdiocese of Chicago schools.

I am very proud that four of these award winners currently teach at Catholic schools in my district. Kevin Carroll of St. Patrick High School was recognized for his contribution to Arts Education, Marilyn Ann Skowron of Guerin College Preparatory was recognized for Innovation and Creativity, and both Kevin L. Booth of Notre Dame High School for Girls and Christopher E. Perez of St. Patrick High School were recognized for Leadership. I thank these outstanding educators as well as all of the dedicated Catholic school teachers in my district for their devotion to their students and for setting the standard for teaching excellence.

Mr. Speaker, I support H. Res. 23 and encourage Catholic schools in my district and across the United States to continue contributing to the development of strong moral, intellectual and social values in America's young people. I thank the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops for their sponsorship of Catholic Schools Week.

TRIBUTE TO MT. TABOR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH—CELEBRATING 104 YEARS OF FAITH AND GOOD WORKS

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my congratulations to my pastor Reverend Dr. George Edward McRae and my fellow congregants as together we celebrate the 104th Anniversary of Mt. Tabor Missionary Baptist Church this Sunday, February 13, 2005.

Located in the heart of Miami's Liberty City at 1701 N.W. 66th Street, this citadel of faith

has been and continues to be a beacon of comfort and hope in our community.

Under the leadership of our beloved pastor, Rev. Dr. McRae, Mt. Tabor has taken an active and progressive role in directly addressing the temporal, as well as spiritual needs of our neighbors. I want to commend him for his tireless apostolate in ministering to those afflicted with the HIV/AIDS virus, to those who are imprisoned, to the hungry, and to all those seeking the love and solace of a Church that seeks to affirm and confirm their dignity as God's children.

As we come together in thanks and reflection on our Church's 104 years of ministry, this historic anniversary takes on a meaning much greater than the passage of time, for Mt. Tabor Missionary Baptist Church has met the spiritual needs of thousands of people who came before us, and through the grace of God will continue to do so for another century to come. It is a magnificent legacy we will celebrate.

And so I proudly join my fellow church members in celebrating 104 years of faith and good works, of caring of one another, and reaching through good works to those least able to fend for themselves.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY
MONTH AND ITS 2005 THEME—
THE NIAGARA MOVEMENT

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great sense of honor that I rise to celebrate Black History Month and its 2005 theme—the Niagara Movement. Fitting with this theme which honors the first African American meeting held to end racial discrimination, I would like to recognize the struggles and achievements of African Americans in the steelworker union movement who faced daunting challenges, but whose lives were forces for change.

Over the last century, African American industrial history has broken through significant barriers. However, the struggle for equal rights and protections faced numerous challenges during this time. The modern struggle for access to equal rights, protections, and work began in 1892 with the Homestead Strike, when African American workers were brought in on trains, unaware of their destination, to break the strike. This marked the advent of the northward migration of African American fieldworkers to the mills of the North.

Though African Americans would increasingly join the steel mills, they faced discrimination and limited opportunities once they arrived. This, despite the increased strength and numbers the African American community provided the labor movement, particularly during World War I when African American representation in the steel mills swelled. However, it is important to note the perseverance of these brave workers who accepted some of the most dangerous jobs and the legacy they provided for the generations after them who continued the fight for equal rights and equal opportunity.

Unfortunately, the successful CIO organizing drives of the 1930s and success of the broad-

er labor movement began to leave African Americans behind. Though African Americans had increasingly joined the mills and unions, by World War II they still faced de facto limits on the types of opportunities they could expect at the mills. Generally limited to the lower skilled positions, regardless of their actual ability, this generation began to challenge the working order and demand equal treatment, both by their own unions and by management.

These struggles culminated in the 1970s, when the mills and unions began setting hiring and promotion goals for women and minorities. Though this represented a watershed event for African American steelworkers, they have continued to forcefully advocate for their rights while working tirelessly for labor rights and the future of the steel industry.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the contributions these American heroes have made to the labor movement and to their communities. I am proud to honor the ideals represented by Black History Month and its 2005 theme of the Niagara Movement, by recognizing the African American steelworkers who struggled and continue to fight for equality, opportunity, and an end to racial discrimination.

IN MEMORY OF VIRGIL "SONNY"
DAFFRON

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I ask the members of this distinguished body to join me in remembering Virgil "Sonny" Daffron, an upstanding resident of the Fifth Congressional District of Kentucky. Sonny passed away on December 27, 2004, at the age of 79.

Ever since he was a boy growing up in Junction City, Kentucky, Sonny Daffron never met a stranger. Anyone who knew him would agree that he was one of the friendliest people who ever lived. His outgoing personality served as a source of joy and inspiration for all those he encountered. He took this friendly demeanor with him to Wayne County, Kentucky, where he lived with his family during his school years. It was there that he found the love of his life, Marcia Frances Kelsay.

Sonny and Marcia were a match made in heaven. Sonny would recount stories of how he'd walk past the Kelsay home numerous times each day hoping to catch a glimpse of his sweetheart. Although Sonny's brave service in the United States Navy took him away from Marcia from 1943 to 1946, his love for her did not falter. He promised himself that when he returned home, he would make Marcia his wife.

He kept that promise, and on April 6, 1947, Sonny and Marcia were married.

In addition to being a faithful husband, Sonny was a loving father to four children: Danny Moore, Annette Susan, Stephen Denton and David Scott. He was also "PePaw" to five granddaughters, three grandsons, two great-granddaughters and one great-grandson.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Sonny Daffron. While he will be sorely missed, I am confident

his legacy will live on forever in the hearts and minds of his loving family and many friends.

HONORING ROBERT C. WADE, SR.

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay public tribute to a remarkable individual from my home district. Robert C. Wade, Sr., a leader in Kentucky rural electrification, retired in December from the Board of Directors at Nolin Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation, bringing his distinguished 34-year tenure to a close.

Bob began his service on the Nolin Board of Directors in June 1970. Four years later he was elevated to Chairman, leading Nolin RECC through 29 years of unprecedented growth and development. Bob incorporated a rare combination of intelligent leadership, innovation, and consistent hard work to create a work ethic that has established Nolin as a model of excellence throughout the cooperative industry.

In addition to his dedicated service at Nolin, Bob was also a past chair of Speak Up For Rural Electrification, SURE, and served as a director and on the Planning and Objectives Committee of the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation, CFC, in Herndon, Virginia. In each endeavor, Bob demonstrated a unique and effective commitment to the cause of rural electrification.

Today, I would like to recognize Robert C. Wade, Sr., before the entire U.S. House of Representatives, for his contributions to his community, his state and his Nation. His many achievements in the cooperative movement and rural electrification make him an outstanding American, worthy of our collective respect and honor.

THE WAR IN DARFUR

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, the killing continues in Darfur and the United Nations has become paralyzed and unable to stop it. I am submitting for the RECORD a copy of a letter sent this week to U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan signed by 33 members of the House of Representatives asking him to return to Darfur and to report back to the Security Council on the conditions there.

The Security Council must take immediate, effective measures to stop the bloodshed. If the Security Council fails to act, Kofi Annan should resign out of protest. The time is now for bold action. The people of Darfur can wait no longer.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

Washington, DC, February 7, 2005.

HON. KOFI ANNAN,
Secretary General, United Nations,
New York, NY.

DEAR MR. SECRETARY GENERAL: As you are aware, the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Army recently