

civil rights of Southern blacks. This pursuit eventually proved unsuccessful, with the end of Reconstruction effectively meaning that the black electorate lost all political power. In 1876, Rainey won re-election against Democratic candidate John Smythe Richardson;

Richardson however challenged the result as invalid on the grounds of intimidation by federal soldiers and black militias. Two years later, as the opponents of Reconstruction solidified their control over South Carolina politics; Rainey was defeated in a second contest with Richardson.

After leaving Congress, Joseph Rainey was appointed internal-revenue agent of South Carolina. He held this position for two years, after which he began a career in private commerce. Rainey retired in 1886 and died the following year in Georgetown, the city in which he was born.

Joseph H. Rainey set a standard which all U.S. Representatives should seek to emulate. His strength and courage was unparalleled, and his will and commitment to his people, his state and his country were admirable. Thank you, Mr. Rainey for paving the way for African Americans like me in Congress, and for reminding us that we too must continue the fight for true liberty and justice for all.

The Honorable Chaka Fattah, Member of Congress and the Honorable Robert W. Ney, Chairman, the House Fine Arts Board, cordially invite you to the Official Unveiling of the Portrait of the Honorable Joseph H. Rainey, the first African-American to serve in the United States House of Representatives, the Rayburn Foyer, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C., Wednesday, September 21, 2005, 2:00 p.m.

TRIBUTE TO KKLA-FM CHRISTIAN TALK RADIO

HON. DANA ROHRABACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and celebrate the 20th Anniversary of KKLA-FM Christian Talk Radio in Los Angeles, California.

KKLA-FM began broadcasting out of a small studio in North Hollywood on October 15, 1985. The launch of an afternoon drive call-in talk show, "Live From L.A.," in 1986 moved the station into position as the voice of the Southern California Christian community on local and national issues. KKLA-FM was the first station in Los Angeles—and the second in the country—to stream programming live on the Internet, beginning in late 1995.

In the late 1990s, KKLA-FM's success led parent company Salem Communications Corporation to acquire and develop other stations around it in a cluster, including News/Talk 870 KRLA-AM, 95.9 KFSH-FM (The Fish), News/Talk 590 KTIE-AM and 1190 KXMX-AM. Salem Los Angeles, as the cluster is known today, encompasses nearly the entire 5th floor of its Glendale headquarters with 11 studios and production suites, and satellite offices in Orange County and the Inland Empire.

For 20 years, KKLA-FM has provided a place for Southern Californians to tune in and listen to the Christian perspective on national events. Their success is also due to the generosity of their listeners who voluntarily con-

tribute to pay for programming rather than expecting it from the taxpayer. I congratulate them on 2 decades of excellence and look forward to another 20 years of quality Christian talk radio.

CELEBRATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. ANN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize St. Ann Catholic School on the occasion of its 80th Anniversary.

Located in the heart of downtown West Palm Beach, Florida, St. Ann is the oldest continually active Roman Catholic Church and school in South Florida. Built in 1925, St. Ann is an integral part of a historic campus with four buildings. In 2004, the City of West Palm Beach designated the campus buildings as local historic district. St. Ann has been nominated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Under the leadership of Principal Karen DeMar and Father Seamus Murtagh, St. Ann School provides a wonderful education choice for parents in Palm Beach County. The philosophical basis for the curriculum is the belief that each child is unique and free to develop spiritually, intellectually, physically and socially to the full extent of his or her potential.

St. Ann Catholic School has a diverse population of approximately 300 students, pre-K through eighth grade. Many parents selected the school not only for its curriculum but to be close to their children while they work in the governmental and professional offices in the surrounding neighborhood.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate the families, friends, faculty and staff as they celebrate the 80th Anniversary of St. Ann Catholic School.

TRIBUTE TO THE PUERTO RICAN PANORAMA AND DIEGO CASTELLANOS

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Puerto Rican Panorama and Diego Castellanos.

Puerto Rican Panorama is a weekly television show on 6 ABC, the leading television station in Philadelphia. Although the show is broadcast in English, it deals exclusively with Hispanic issues and Latin culture. Panorama has been on the air uninterrupted since September 1970, making it the world's longest-running TV show of its type thus landing its host, Diego Castellanos, in the Philadelphia Broadcast Pioneers Hall of Fame.

Dr. Castellanos is a native of Puerto Rico who has resided in the Greater Philadelphia area most of his life. He was trained as a journalist at Marquette University in Milwaukee, holds a master's degree from Montclair State University, and earned a doctor's degree in

education from Fairleigh Dickinson University. He also graduated from the New Jersey Military Academy and served as a commissioned officer in the New Jersey National Guard. He is a licensed pilot, a published author, has taught at several colleges and universities and has the skilled talent of playing the guitar.

His show, Puerto Rican Panorama, has served not only to inform the Hispanic community of issues that affect their lives, but just as important, to provide an opportunity for the mainstream audience to learn about Latinos and their culture.

Through Dr. Castellanos' hard work and dedication to his career he has been able to share a wonderful culture with many others. In recognition of his years of service to the Latino community I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues rise to congratulate him.

HONORING THE SPINA BIFIDA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN AND COMMEMORATING OCTOBER AS NATIONAL SPINA BIFIDA AWARENESS MONTH

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Spina Bifida Association of America (SBAA)—an organization that has helped those living with and affected by this debilitating disease for over 30 years—and recognize the observance of October as National Spina Bifida Awareness Month, and to pay tribute to the more than 250,000 Americans in the Spina Bifida Association of America Community.

Currently, it is estimated that approximately 70,000 people in the United States are living with Spina Bifida, the most common permanently disabling birth defect. For those of my colleagues who may be unfamiliar with this disease, Spina Bifida is the broad term used to describe a series of neural tube defects that occurs in the first month of pregnancy when the spinal column doesn't completely close. In fact, there are three different distinct forms of Spina Bifida, often referred to as Occulta, Meningocele and Myelomeningocele.

The Occulta form of Spina Bifida is often referred to as hidden Spina Bifida, as the spinal cord and the nerves are usually normal and there is no opening on the back. Instead, in this usually harmless form of Spina Bifida, there is a small defect or gap in a few of the small bones (vertebrae) that make up the spine. There may be no motor or sensory impairments evident at birth, but subtle, progressive neurologic deterioration often becomes evident in late childhood or early adulthood.

The Meningocele form of Spina Bifida is when the protective coating covering the spinal cord (meninges) push outward through an open part of the spine like a sac. Cerebrospinal fluid fills the sac, but there is usually no nerve damage. Individuals may suffer minor disabilities at the onset, but new problems can develop later in life. Finally, the Myelomeningocele form of Spina Bifida—the most serious type of Spina Bifida, which causes nerve damage and more severe disabilities—occurs when the meninges and the

spinal nerves both come through an open part of the spine.

While medical science has not yet discovered the exact cause of Spina Bifida—it is a birth defect that can strike anyone—we do know that a woman taking 400 mcg of folic acid whether as part of a multivitamin/drug formula or alone, prior to and in the early weeks of pregnancy, reduces her risk of having a baby with Spina Bifida or another neural tube defect by as much as 70 percent. That is why since February 1996 and at the direction of Food and Drug Administration, all U.S. food manufacturers started adding folic acid to most enriched breads, flours, corn meals, pastas, rice and other grain products to reduce the risk of birth defects in newborns. Following the fortification of cereal grains, the incidences of these types of birth defects decreased by about 20 percent.

However, surveys and research suggest that only about 30 percent of American women consume the daily recommended amount of folic acid. As a result, today in America there are still some 60 million women at risk of having a baby born with Spina Bifida, and everyday, an average of 8 babies are affected by Spina Bifida or a similar birth defect of the brain and spine. Annually, approximately 3,000 pregnancies are affected by these birth defects.

These devastating birth defects cannot be cured, so they must be prevented, and the evidence of folic acid's benefits as a preventative is extremely compelling. The solution is education and awareness. Since 1973, the Spina Bifida Association of America—the nation's only organization solely dedicated to advocating on behalf of the Spina Bifida community—has been leading the charge. Through their almost 60 chapters in more than 125 communities, the SBAA has helped bring thousands of expectant parents together with parents of children who suffer from the disease. This type of one-on-one interaction helps concerned parents get answers to their questions, but most importantly it lends support and gives people essential information and hope. Thanks to SBAA's efforts, millions of people have received vital information about Spina Bifida and how it affects those who live with it; countless women have learned about the importance of taking folic acid prior to pregnancy to reduce the risk of Spina Bifida and other neural tube defects; and, countless individuals afflicted with Spina Bifida have gotten the help they need to live life to its fullest and achieve their full potential.

A very special lady who works with me in my office, Ms. Donna Jones, in fact happens to have Spina Bifida. Since the day she came on board, she has done a great job and helped me understand first-hand the challenge of living with this disease. Ever since I've known her, Donna has always believed that change can come if even one individual believes in themselves and strives to make a difference no matter how hard the challenge. And she has never let the challenge of living with her disease slow her down or stop her from pursuing her dream of making a difference and advocating for persons with disabilities. I was happy to be able to give her the opportunity to come to Washington and try to make her dream a reality; and I have no doubt that because of her tireless efforts to raise awareness of Spina Bifida on Capitol Hill, the incidence of Spina Bifida will decrease

and fewer children will have to endure the road she has had to travel.

Even with all the challenges she faces, I have never seen Donna without a smile on her face. She definitely has an infectious love of life, and when the world looks at her it doesn't see a person unobtrusively going through the motions of everyday life, it sees an outspoken, dynamic and active person willing to get involved in the issues that she cares about, particularly those that affect disabled individuals in our country.

I believe that Donna is perhaps the best advocate the Spina Bifida community could have on Capitol Hill because each and every day, she serves as living proof that someone with Spina Bifida need never take a back seat to anyone. I wish more young people in America had the same fire and commitment as Donna. In fact, it is largely thanks to Donna that I became aware of and joined the Congressional Spina Bifida Caucus. I hope that many of my colleagues listening today will also join the Caucus and work to spread awareness and education about this disease. Working together we can do so much to improve the quality of life to those living with Spina Bifida.

Just this past Wednesday, October 5, 2005, the SBAA's held its 17th Annual Gala here in Washington to benefit the Association and its many chapters around the nation. The event was a tremendous success and the funds raised will help the SBAA and its chapters around the country continue the good work they do in preventing more occurrences of this devastating disease, and reducing the suffering of those 70,000 Americans living with Spina Bifida. I firmly believe that we owe SBAA a great debt for what they have accomplished.

In my home State of Indiana, SBAA, the Spina Bifida Association (SBA) of Central Indiana and the SBA of Northern Indiana have formed a collaborative partnership to make a difference in the lives of Hoosier families living with Spina Bifida by helping them meet the challenges and enjoy the rewards of raising their children. In addition, in response to the devastation of the Gulf region of this country by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Indiana's Spina Bifida chapters answered the call by participating in the Spina Bifida Hurricane Emergency Life Support Program (SBHELSP). Established by the SBAA, the SBHELSP, assisted in getting vitally needed supplies to victims of the hurricanes and to put displaced families affected by Spina Bifida in touch with others who understand their special needs and can help them. I cannot say enough good things about the hard work, dedication and compassion of the volunteers and staff at all the Indiana chapters of SBAA; I can only thank them on behalf of all Hoosiers for all they have done and all that they will continue to do.

SBAA and its local chapters are making a difference one life at a time. With National Spina Bifida Awareness Month upon us again, I would say to my colleagues in closing that the time for us to start making a difference is now.

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.J. Res. 68, the Continuing Appropriations Resolution for FY 2006. By funding the government at the lower of the House bill, the Senate bill, or current rate, this continuing resolution would require immediate cuts in programs that address the very problems that America's families are facing this fall—unemployment, education, health care, and emergency preparedness.

Right now, there are 7.4 million unemployed Americans—1.4 million of whom have been jobless for more than 26 weeks. Thousands more are applying for benefits in the wake of Katrina and Rita, yet this bill would cut essential Federal training and employment services below last year's level, including \$138 million, or 4 percent, from job training formula grant programs. Just as students are going back to school, this legislation calls for an \$800 million cut in education programs. With 45.8 million uninsured Americans, this bill fails to provide necessary assistance to the Community Health Centers that serve these very citizens. In a time when emergency preparedness should be a high priority, the bill cuts Hospital Preparedness Grants by \$15 million and Public Health Preparedness Grants by \$66 million.

In light of these pressing concerns for all Americans and rising deficits, we must spend our dollars wisely. Yet, we have been presented with a bill that shortchanges the very programs that promise to rebuild our workforce, educate our children and protect the health and well being of our citizens. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting fiscal responsibility by voting against H.J. Res. 68.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO STARR COMMONWEALTH ON THE OCCA- SION OF ITS EXPANDED MONTCALM SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to a special organization in Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. This October, the Montcalm School for Girls at Starr Commonwealth's Van Wert campus celebrates its first anniversary celebration.

Mr. Speaker, Starr Commonwealth has been nationally recognized for serving thousands of children, families and professionals throughout America. For nearly a century, the dedicated staff of Starr Commonwealth has committed themselves to diffusing violence, healing racism and developing positive environments in the children which they serve. With five locations in Michigan and Ohio, Starr Commonwealth operates dozens of programs for troubled youth and their families. By instilling the core values of integrity, excellence, compassion and faith, Starr Commonwealth has been effective at redirecting misdirected children across our nation.