

IN HONOR OF CAROL VUKELICH

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2005

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Carol Vukelich, a recipient of the 2005 Ratledge Family Award. I congratulate her for her noteworthy service to the University of Delaware and the community. The Ratledge Family Award is given only to those unique individuals who exemplify excellence in public service, and Carol Vukelich is deserving of this coveted award.

Ms. Vukelich has devoted the past 32 years as a proud member of the University of Delaware faculty. In addition to her faculty appointment as the Hammonds Professor of Teacher Education, she has served as the founding director of the Delaware Center for Teacher Education. In addition, she is the cofounder of the Delaware Writing Project and the Delaware Reading Project, both professional development programs designed to build teachers' skills as mentors to other teachers.

More recently, Ms. Vukelich has turned her attention to such worthy projects as the enhancement of middle and high school special education teacher content knowledge and the overall strengthening of Head Start teachers. Specifically, she is working to improve early language and reading skills.

Educators serve a critical role in our society, especially those who are as dedicated to improving their field of knowledge as Ms. Vukelich. The University of Delaware and the Ratledge Family deserve much credit for recognizing this dynamic woman.

I congratulate and thank Ms. Vukelich on her years of service and numerous contributions to the State of Delaware. Thank you Carol, for your exceptional career as an educator and for your tireless efforts at improving teaching.

TRIBUTE TO MS. CAROLYN
McLAUGHLIN

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2005

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Carolyn McLaughlin for her many years of outstanding service as the Executive Director of the Citizens Advice Bureau, a Bronx based social service organization that has helped countless families obtain a new lease on life.

Carolyn has always been dedicated to empowering the people of her community. After receiving her Masters in Social Work from Columbia University, she joined the Mt. Eden Senior Center and later the Vacation Camp for the Blind. In 1979, Carolyn made the Citizens Advice Bureau her home and has overseen CAB's progression from a small organization staffed by two people to one with 450 staff members, eight major divisions, and a budget of more than \$25 million.

The Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) is a multi-service organization whose mission is to improve the well-being of low-income individ-

uals, families, and communities in the South Bronx and Northern Manhattan. CAB provides an array of services including: Early childhood education, after-school and summer camp programs for children, assistance for homeless families, crisis intervention, counseling and case management for persons with AIDS, senior programs, legal and citizenship assistance for immigrants and a wide range of teen programs.

Under Carolyn's strong leadership, CAB has enjoyed many accomplishments over the past 25 years. These accomplishments include: Merging with the Girls Club of New York, obtaining contracts for three Tier II family shelters, creating a Homeless Prevention program, developing a Homeless Outreach team and living room drop in center for homeless adults, launching the Homelessness Relocation Assistance Program for families leaving the shelter system and returning to permanent housing and developing a homeless outreach team.

Carolyn sits on the boards of the Non-Profit Coordinating Committee and the Mid-Bronx Senior Citizen's Council. She chaired the Bronx Cluster of Settlement Houses for two years and oversaw cluster-wide community building activities from 1997 to 2001. She also served on advisory panels commissioned on out-of-school time services and homelessness by Mayor Bloomberg.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for Carolyn's unyielding service to the people of the Bronx. Her efforts have helped countless families enjoy a higher standard of living and given them hope that there is a brighter tomorrow. Dr. King once stated that, "Life's most urgent question is: What are you doing for others?" Carolyn, along with the entire staff of Citizens Advice Bureau need simply point to the long list of individuals they have helped to empower in the City of New York.

I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Ms. Carolyn McLaughlin and the Citizens Advice Bureau.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KATHERINE HARRIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2005

Ms. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, due to the recent devastation caused by Hurricane Wilma on the State of Florida, I was unable to attend votes on Thursday, October 27, 2005 due to a visit to the State with President Bush and other delegation Members. While I am disappointed I was not able to be present, I am asking, that you include the following intended votes in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

I would have voted nay on H.J. Res. 65, the Schiff Amendment to H.R. 420, as well as the Democratic Motion to Recommit H.R. 420. I would have voted yea on H.R. 3945, H. Res. 368, Final Passage of H.R. 420, and the Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 3047.

Again, I apologize for my absence and thank you in advance for your time and attention to this matter.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. HERBERT K.
ABRAMS**HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2005

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Herbert K. Abrams, a life-long Champion of health care for all.

Dr. Abrams has been a particular example to me. He arrived in Tucson in 1968, about the time I was marching in the streets with other Chicanos asking for better health-care and recreation facilities. Within a few years, he had shown those of us in the protest movement that a big heart, intelligence, patience and persistence could convince a government to respond to the needs of the people. I will forever be grateful to him for that quiet leadership.

Dr. Abrams was hired by Dr. Monte DuVal, founding dean of the University of Arizona's College of Medicine, to create what became the Department of Family and Community Medicine. He also acquired federal funding for the El Rio Santa Cruz Neighborhood Health Center.

In each case, he prepared a foundation for growth.

In the early 1970s, he organized family practice clinics in what were then the small towns of Marana, Benson and Casa Grande. Today, his philosophy of taking medical care to those outside metropolitan areas is vested in the department's Rural Health Program, which supports rural clinics and family practice by young doctors.

Back in Tucson, the clinic Dr. Abrams helped create has shortened its name to El Rio Health Clinic, but expanded its service to 11 locations. El Rio was designed to serve the poor; it continues with that emphasis today, but is open to all with a sliding fee schedule.

Through the years, he also has been a significant supporter during difficult times for E1 Pueblo Clinic and the Pima County-owned Kino Community Hospital, now known as University Physicians Healthcare (UPH) Hospital at Kino Campus.

His impact on medical care has been recognized with the naming of two buildings in his honor. One is the College of Medicine building that houses the department he founded. The other will be visible next fall when construction is completed on the \$28 million Herbert K. Abrams Public Health Center on the Kino Campus.

Dr. Abrams came to Tucson already a recognized health-service pioneer. He had spent the preceding 16 years in Chicago, where he established the Martin Luther King Neighborhood Health Center and the 40,000-member Union Health Service, an early-day health maintenance organization that last year celebrated its 50th anniversary.

More than 60 of his scientific papers have been published. Many of them examined occupational medicine, and he has performed specific research on farm workers and pesticides and on the use of the short-handled hoe.

Dr. Abrams is known internationally, having worked, consulted or performed research in China, Japan, Australia, the United Kingdom, Israel and Papua New Guinea. He was a commissioned officer in the U.S. Public Health

Service from 1942 to 1946 and served two years of that time training medical officers and working on a cholera control team and as area medical rehabilitation officer in China. He returned to China on at least six other occasions, including earlier this year when he again met with medical colleagues he had first known 60 years ago. He has studied occupational and environmental health along the U.S.-Mexico border, and has consulted for the World Health Organization.

Dr. Abrams received degrees of Doctor of Medicine and Master of Science from the University of Illinois in 1940 and a Master of Public Health from Johns Hopkins University in 1947. He received his bachelor's degree from Northwestern University in 1936.

Through the years, Dr. Abrams, 92, has pursued his goals with a soft voice and a smile. He knows that this nation still does not provide health care for all, and last year wrote an op-ed article reminding Tucson newspaper readers that 45 million Americans remain without health insurance.

A poster on a wall in his office asks: "What ever happened to health care for the poor?" Dr. Abrams answered the question for Arizona Daily Star reporter Jane Erikson earlier this year, saying: "Not much . . . we still have a long ways to go . . ."

TRIBUTE TO DR. MARTHA BURK

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to a remarkable individual whose record of service to the women's movement across this country and around the world is second to none. For the past thirty years, Dr. Martha Burk has devoted her life to advancing equality for women. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in saluting Dr. Burk's record of advocacy, activism and achievement.

Martha Burk was born in 1941 to Ivan Lee Burk and Dorothy May Dean, who owned a retail clothing store in the small east Texas town of Pasadena. She married while still an undergraduate and earned a BS from the University of Houston in 1962. She spent the next few years at home raising her two sons, Mark and Ed Talley. Refusing to accept the limited career options then open to women, she earned a PhD in psychology from the University of Texas in 1974.

After her first marriage ended, Dr. Burk moved to Kansas and became active in the Wichita chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW). She gradually built her resume as a political psychologist and women's equity expert through work as a university research director, management professor, and adviser, consultant, or board member for an array of political campaigns and organizations including NOW's national board. Dr. Burk and her husband, Dr. Ralph Estes, moved to Washington, D.C. in 1990 and founded the Center for Advancement of Public Policy (CAPP). Dr. Burk is president of CAPP and recently completed a five-year tenure as Chair of the National Council of Women's Organizations (NCWO), a network of over 200 national women's groups collectively representing ten million women.

Under Dr. Burk's leadership, NCWO's membership more than doubled as she brought new energy, inspiration, and resources to the largest network of women's organizations in the nation. Over the past five years, Dr. Burk has focused on involving the next generation of American women in feminist politics. Under her leadership, young women at NCWO launched the Younger Women's Task Force, an exciting nationwide grassroots effort to engage women in their twenties and thirties in women's issues and the public policy debate. Dr. Burk has also developed and invigorated NCWO's summer internship program, New Faces More Voices, a unique program that trains college students to engage in effective advocacy and organizing around feminist social justice issues.

In addition to her extensive work promoting women's equality in the U.S., Dr. Burk has also worked internationally to advance women's rights. She has organized training workshops with women's NGOs internationally in Macedonia and Kuwait, under the sponsorship of USAID, and has conducted training in the U.S. for delegations from Russia, Botswana, Korea, Romania, Bulgaria, and the Middle East. She has recently been a member of official U.S. Delegations to international conferences in Iceland, Lithuania, Estonia, and China. Named one of Ms. Magazine's women of the year in 2003, Dr. Burk's syndicated columns have been published in major newspapers and magazines around the globe, and she has appeared on news shows around the nation.

A former board member of the National Committee on Pay Equity, Dr. Burk has fought throughout her career to end sex discrimination in the workplace. Citing the taxpayer-financed advantages business leaders enjoy at the exclusive Augusta National Golf Club, she led the effort to open membership to women. The power elite's response to this controversy exposed how deeply sex discrimination is ingrained in the culture of corporate America. Her recent book, *Cult of Power: Sex Discrimination in Corporate America and What Can Be Done About It*, explores how systemic barriers of social injustice were put in place and how they can be brought down. Currently, Dr. Burk is focusing her energies full time on furthering women's progress in the workplace as the director of NCWO's Corporate Accountability Project.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to pay tribute to Dr. Martha Burk and to recognize her three decades of heroic commitment to women's progress. I am confident that her work will continue to influence and inspire this generation and future generations to fight for equality. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in thanking Dr. Martha Burk for her unparalleled contribution to her country.

IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED FUNDING FOR THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE AND JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2005

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the commitment this Congress has made to the budget of the National Science Foundation, NSF. Over a 10-year period, we have increased NSF funding 45.2 percent in real terms, and in a tough budget climate we are increasing NSF appropriations by 2.4 percent over last year.

The NSF is perhaps the government's most efficient and effective agency. It provides the backbone of our Nation's basic research efforts and strengthens our institutions of higher education by funding that research at university campuses across the country. The NSF also supports science education in grades K-12 to ensure future generations of Americans are equipped to carry on our tradition of innovation and prosperity. Every dollar appropriated to the National Science Foundation is an investment in this country's future.

Mr. Speaker, we need more investment in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, STEM. This appropriation is a good first step. However, if this country is to keep pace and maintain its leadership in the global economy, we must greatly expand and improve STEM education for children and college students and continue to increase our support of American innovation.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this appropriation for the NSF and renewing this country's commitment to innovation and economic competitiveness.

RECOGNITION OF THE SESQUICENTENNIAL OF NOKOMIS, IL

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2005

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the people of Nokomis, IL, on the occasion of their town's sesquicentennial.

The earliest settlers began arriving in Nokomis Township in 1840. The first permanent dwelling was built by Hugh Hightower around 1843. The first sermon was preached by Rev. J.I. Crane, a Methodist Episcopal minister. The Baptist congregation was organized in 1856 and Lutherans became active in the community in 1852.

The first school was taught in the home of Henry Lower in 1848, while the first school was later built in 1853. Since then, the Nokomis community has continued to grow and to prosper—offering its residents a loving place in which to raise their families, establish life-long friendships, conduct their business, to work, to learn, to worship, and to give thanks for God's blessings.

Today, Nokomis is known as a vital link within downstate central Illinois. For more information on all that the people of Nokomis