

The number of individuals who are affected by medical errors is astounding. In 2000, the Institute of Medicine released a report entitled "To Err is Human: Building a Safer Health System." The report revealed that between 44,000 and 98,000 hospitalized people in the U.S. die each year due to medical errors, and thousands of others suffer injury or illness as a result of preventable errors. To address this problem, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations has developed a universal protocol which calls for surgical teams to call a "time out" before surgeries begin in order to verify the patient's identity, the procedure to be performed, and the site of the procedure. The Joint Commission has required nurses, surgeons and hospitals throughout the country to adopt this protocol effective July 1, 2004, in order to curb the alarming number of deaths and injuries due to medical errors.

AORN has created an Internet website and distributed 55,000 tool kits to healthcare professionals to help them implement the universal protocol, and they are celebrating National Time Out Day on June 23 to promote the protocol and its adoption. National Time Out Day has been endorsed by a distinguished group of healthcare organizations, including the American College of Surgeons, the American Society of Anesthesiologists, the American Hospital Association, and the American Society for Healthcare Risk Management.

Mr. Speaker, ultimately, this issue is about health care access and patient safety. I think it is important for Congress to recognize and congratulate perioperative nurses and representatives of surgical teams for working together to reduce medical errors and to ensure the improved health and safety of surgical patients. Fewer medical errors will result in better outcomes for patients, fewer medical malpractice suits, which in turn will help keep malpractice insurance rates and health care premiums down. I urge the House to adopt the resolution.

HONORING THE EXEMPLARY WORK OF EDDIE AGUILAR

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 10, 2005*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exemplary work of Eddie Aguilar of Seguin, Texas for his dedication and commitment to community service. Eddie Aguilar has made the people of my Congressional district proud, by tirelessly dedicating his time to many non-profit organizations.

Mr. Aguilar is a self-proclaimed "full-time volunteer," since his retirement from military service. He has been an active volunteer with the Salvation Army, The Cranny, and the Guadalupe Family Violence Shelter. The life lessons that Eddie gained while he served two years in the United States Army, and fifteen years as a U.S. Marine have aided him when he volunteered his help during times of disaster; such as floods and fires that have affected his community.

Eddie also holds the position as disaster relief coordinator with the Salvation Army, and he formally served as a board member of the Guadalupe Family Violence Shelter and The

Cranny. His work with the women's shelter and various children's groups has not gone overlooked.

Mr. Aguilar was honored by the Seguin community when Councilwoman Jo Anne Sutherland nominated him for the 2004 Time Warner Hometown hero award, many of his family and friends were in attendance when he accepted this award during a banquet in San Antonio, Texas. Honorees of this award are considered to be among the best of the community, and it is an opportunity to honor the area's un-sung heroes.

Aguilar takes no credit for his work, and praises his 78-year-old mother as being his constant inspiration. He recognizes his mother with instilling in him the belief of making a difference in someone's life and to think of others well-being ahead of his own.

I believe Mr. Aguilar has the qualities that make up a great citizen of Seguin. He demonstrates great dedication to community service, and I am further impressed by the little credit he wishes to receive for his work.

Mr. Speaker, I'm proud I have had this opportunity to recognize the noble service of Eddie Aguilar.

A PROCLAMATION IN MEMORY OF JOHN K. FINLEY

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 10, 2005*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker,

Whereas, I hereby offer my heartfelt condolences to the family, friends, and community of Mayor John K. Finley; and

Whereas, Mayor Finley was a father, counselor, leader, friend, and mentor to thousands and will be deeply missed. His achievements and example will be always remembered; and

Whereas, Mayor Finley was a member of the West Virginia Fire Association, Ohio Fire Chief Association, and the Ohio Firemen's Association. He was the longest active member of the M&M Volunteer Fire Department; and

Whereas, Mayor Finley was a charter member and Elder of the Church of the Gospel Ministry in McConnelsville, and also a former member of the First Presbyterian Church of McConnelsville, where he served as Sunday School superintendent and treasurer; and

Whereas, Mayor Finley lived his life as a servant of the people as mayor and councilman of McConnelsville for more than 31 years, during which, his proudest accomplishments were the establishment of the Hawk Missile Site, the McConnelsville Swimming Pool, and updating McConnelsville's water and sewer systems; and

Whereas, the understanding and caring to which he gave to others will stand as a monument to a truly fine person. His life and dedication gave joy to all who knew him.

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, friends, and colleagues of Mayor John Finley.

TRIBUTE TO MR. TED JEFFERSON

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 10, 2005*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise during this month devoted to the celebration of Black History to pay tribute to Mr. Ted Jefferson, an outstanding individual who has been actively involved in my community for more than 40 years.

For the past 18 years, Ted has served as the Executive Director of the Bronx Shepards Restoration Corporation. He has been a leading force in the Bronx in providing affordable housing through rehabilitation or new construction.

The Bronx Shepard's Organization offers home ownership opportunities to first time home buyers, a weatherization program with an annual budget of over 1.5 million dollars and a variety of other programs that are of direct benefit to residents of the Bronx community. An example of Ted's leadership was the construction of the Daniel Nickerson Arms building, a home for the frail and elderly. He led Bronx Shepards in developing what began as a vision into what now stands as a model of how the government, the private sector and the local community can overcome insurmountable odds when working together.

Ted has also served the community as a volunteer with the Morris Heights Neighborhood Improvement Association, the Webster Action Committee, Community Board #13, Community Board #6, the Twin Parks Association, the Community Advisory Board of the Local Initiative Support Corporation and the Bronx Borough President's transition team. He is presently a member of the board of the Marcella Brown Foundation and the President of Black United Leadership in the Bronx.

Ted's philosophy is to develop a vision for the Bronx in which all of its residents have the opportunity to enhance their quality of life through the development of educational, social, economic and housing opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, during Black History Month we honor individuals such as Harriett Tubman, and Rosa Parks; African Americans who sacrificed their own well-being so that all Americans could have the opportunity to enjoy the inalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Today I want to honor not only these great Americans but also those who in the spirit of selflessness, continue to help others achieve a better life. I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Mr. Ted Jefferson for his outstanding service to the people of my community.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN BUSTER EDWARDS

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 10, 2005*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding South Carolinian who has dedicated his life to protecting our nation's citizens. It is with great pleasure that I commend South Carolina's State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) Captain Buster Edwards as he retires from a second career in public service.

Captain Edwards was born in North Charleston, South Carolina and has returned to his native area, now making his home in Summerville. As a young 17-year-old graduate of Chicora High School, Captain Edwards joined the United States Marine Corps. After five months of Basic Training he was sent to South Vietnam where he served as an infantry soldier from November 1967 to June 1969. He was awarded two Purple Hearts for wounds he received during his tour.

Upon returning to the States, Captain Edwards spent another 20 years in the Marine Corps serving at Camp Pendleton, Camp Lejeune, and Twentynine Palms. While on active duty, he furthered his education eventually earning a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the College of Charleston. He retired from the Marine Corps in 1987.

After his first career serving in the military, Captain Edwards sought to use his talents in law enforcement. He began his second career with SLED as a latent fingerprint technician in the forensic laboratory. Captain Edwards steadily rose through the ranks from lab technician to Field Agent, Lieutenant, and finally Captain. In this last position, he served as the Special Agent-in-Charge overseeing SLED's operations in the Low Country Region of South Carolina. On February 18, 2005, Captain Edwards retired from this second career to focus on his personal passions in life.

Captain Edwards is an active member of Wesley United Methodist Church in Ladson, South Carolina, and helps organize crime prevention and awareness activities in his community. Captain Edwards has received several awards from the United Negro College Fund for his ongoing volunteer work to raise money for college scholarships. And has been very helpful to me as a member of my 6th Congressional District Advisory Committee that helps select the nominees I recommend to the U.S. Military Academies each year.

Captain Edwards has two adult children, three grandchildren, and a son-in-law and daughter-in-law.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the accomplishments of Captain Buster Edwards and congratulating him upon his retirement. His selfless dedication on behalf of his state and his country deserve commendation.

HONORING THE PUBLIC SERVICE  
OF ROBERT P. HENRY

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 10, 2005*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man whose 35 years of public service to the City of Los Angeles serves as an example to us all. I would like to acknowledge this outstanding gentleman whose reputation for hard work, enthusiasm, and diligence is well deserved.

Since beginning his career in 1970 Mr. Henry has worn many different "hats" within the Harbor Department. In each role he demonstrated an exceptional degree of competency and innovation.

In 1982, Mr. Henry established the Harbor Department's first word processing center. This groundbreaking project provided typing

support to the entire department. Mr. Henry's visionary thinking and leadership is evident in his taking on the task of bringing the popular Red Cars back to the Los Angeles area. Years of research, regulations, and endless paperwork culminated in the 2003 successful launch of the Port of Los Angeles Waterfront Red Car Line, which carries hundreds of happy passengers each week.

Mr. Henry's commitment to the City of Los Angeles goes beyond his years of dedicated service in the Harbor Department. Throughout his career he also found the time for community work, donating hundreds of hours to make recordings for the blind and dyslexic. Mr. Henry set a high standard for stellar public service to the Harbor Department, the city, and his fellow citizens. His family, neighbors, and indeed the entire community of Los Angeles are all enriched by his years of dedication and service.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure that I take this opportunity to express my thanks, and that of a grateful city, to Robert P. Henry for 35 years of dedication and public service.

A TRIBUTE TO AILEEN ROSA-  
ARROYO

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 10, 2005*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Aileen Rosa-Arroyo who has dedicated her career to educating our children from toddler to adulthood.

Aileen was born in Brooklyn, New York on November 9, 1962 and is the daughter of Judith Valentin and Gilberto Rosa. She is happily married to Miguel Angel Arroyo, Jr. of Long Beach, N.Y. and is the proud mother of three beautiful children, Alexandra, 14, Isabella Angelica 3 and Christopher Michael who is 10 months old. They reside with their children in Island Park, New York and are surrounded by loving and doting grandparents, Miguel and Lily Arroyo.

Early in her education, Aileen distinguished herself as an excellent student. Graduating from the elite Mary Louis Academy in Jamaica Estates, New York, she majored in English, Spanish and Music. She was then awarded a four-year scholarship for academic excellence to St. John's University, where she studied Communication Arts & Sciences, and did an internship at a television station in production and sales. Her graduate work is in Early Childhood & Elementary Education, completing a Master's Degree in Education and post-graduate work in Bilingual Education and English as a Second Language from Long Island University. Understanding the need for role models in a position of leadership in the educational field and in her community, she then went on to do her second Master's Degree in Supervision and Administration at The College of New Rochelle.

Aileen is the Director of Education & Administration of one of the largest child-care facilities in the City of New York, The Grand St. Settlement Child & Family Center located in the Bushwick section of Brooklyn. The facility services toddlers, pre-school and school-age children and has Head Start and Universal

Pre-K Programs. She is an accomplished educator, holding NYS Permanent Licenses and Permanent Certifications in Supervision & Administration, Early Childhood & Elementary Education, Bilingual Education and Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages. Her experience spans from pre-k to college, having worked as a teacher in the NYC and Long Island public schools for over 15 years and as a professor at both Touro and Boricua Colleges.

Aileen has always been an active leader in our community. She has been honored three times with the Caritas Citation for Community Service and The American Legion Award for Community Service. She has received numerous decorations from the New York City Police Department for Dedicated Service, and the New York State Senate has presented her two citations for Community Service and Outstanding Leadership. The University of The State of New York has bestowed upon her Recognition for Professional Achievement. She is a member of the American Federation of School Administrators, the Council of Administrators & Supervisors, the New York State Association for Bilingual Educators, and Phi Delta Kappa Education Fraternity. Aileen has organized and implemented educational and training programs for children, teens and parents, and staff development for colleagues. She has spent her life giving to others. Her role as an outstanding educator and community leader impacts the lives of many in a positive fashion.

Mr. Speaker, Aileen Rosa-Arroyo has been a leader in her community by ensuring that every member of her community has the opportunity to be educated and succeed. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

RECOGNITION OF DR. KENNETH L.  
SAUNDERS, SR.

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 10, 2005*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of a dedicated member of my community, Dr. Kenneth L. Saunders, Sr. Next month, Dr. Saunders will be celebrating his 16th pastoral anniversary at the North Stelton A.M.E. Church. He has emerged over the years as a community leader as well as a dedicated member of his congregation. Under his committed administration, the congregation at North Stelton has more than doubled.

In addition to serving his community through the church, Dr. Saunders works as State Parole Board Commissioner, Chaplain of the local police department, and New Brunswick Theological Seminary Trustee. He has received numerous accolades including Senatorial commendation, the humanitarian of the year award from the Rutgers University School of Medicine and Dentistry, and the Martin Luther King, Jr. award from the local chapter of the NAACP.

Dr. Saunders is also devoted to his family life. He has been married to Sister Shirley Harris Saunders for 25 years and is the proud