

House of Representatives to pay tribute to Michael Patrick Hinchey, who will receive the Man of the Year Award from the Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons of St. Patrick on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 2005.

Mr. Hinchey, a native of Kingston, is the son of the late John H. Hinchey Jr. and Margaret Jennings Hinchey. He has three brothers: John III, Frank and Edward.

Michael had a distinguished professional career as vice president of the Matheson Transfer Company. He is also co-owner and vice president of the Matheson Warehouse Company, where he still serves in his official capacity along with his three brothers.

Michael is a member of St. Ignatius Church in Kingston, as well as the Church's Holy Name Society. He was a past president of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick in 1984 and was dinner chairman in 1983. Michael is a founding Legacy Member of the Forty Fort Lions Club, an organization in which he served as president, vice president and secretary. He is a board member, golf chairman and building chairman of the Fox Hill Country Club and an active member of the Westmoreland Club as development chairman, historical committee chairman and golf club co-chairman. He is also a committee member of the Pennsylvania Movers Storage Association.

Michael is active in many service organizations, including the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, American Cancer Society, Boy Scouts, Keystone College, King's College, St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen, United Way, YMCA and Wilkes University.

Michael has been married to the former Sharon Cravatta for 28 years. He is the proud father of two beautiful daughters, Westyn Layne and Collyn Michael.

Michael was raised by two wonderful parents who instilled in him a love of family and devotion to community. Michael attributes his pride in his Irish heritage to his grandfather, who was a first generation immigrant.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Michael Patrick Hinchey upon being named Man of the Year by the Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons of St. Patrick.

CONSTRUCTIVE DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT IN TURKEY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, we spend a great deal of time in this chamber speaking about democracy and how to ensure its continuance at home and how to instill it abroad. Encouragingly, one of our most important friends and allies, Turkey, has worked very hard over the past few years to deepen, strengthen and ensure democracy in that country.

Over the past several years Turkey has debated, in the fullness of an open legislature, measures covering human rights, foreign investment, governance, protection of minority interests, freedom of speech and association. A majority of the duly elected members of that body have voted in the affirmative to amend old laws and pass new ones. Many of these changes have been enshrined as permanent parts of Turkish law through amendments to its national constitution.

There are literally hundreds of changes but among the most important are abolition of the death penalty, ability to broadcast in minority languages, ability to be educated in minority languages and cementing civilian control over the military. While we still look forward to more improvements to their democratic infrastructure, Turkey's future looks promising.

Many of these reforms were driven by the demands of the European Union. But to be fair, and to give Turkey its due, irrespective of the reasons why there was a consideration of the need for reform, no reforms would have occurred without the political will of that nation's people and government to squarely face these issues, debate them and overturn, in some cases, policies that have been in existence since the 1923 founding of the Turkish Republic.

Last December 17th, the European Union extended the formal invitation to our friend and ally to begin discussions that will lead to eventual Turkish membership in the EU—the first predominantly Muslim nation to be so considered.

Muslim nations wrestling with the movement toward democracy. I hope all of my colleagues welcome and applaud Turkey's actions.

RECOGNIZING SANDY ALLMON ANDERSON AND HER INDUCTION INTO WOMEN IN AVIATION INTERNATIONAL PIONEER HALL OF FAME

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Sandy Allmon Anderson, from Lewisville, located in the 26th Congressional District of Texas, for her contributions of women in the aviation field.

I congratulate Sandy Anderson for this outstanding achievement. Anderson helped pave the way for women in aviation. She was the first female pilot to check-out in the left seat and the captain's seat, of both the Boeing 727 and 747, first Northwest Airlines Boeing 727 female instructor and check airman, first female Fleet Check Captain among the major U.S. airlines, and the first and only female chief pilot that Northwest Airlines has ever had. Ms. Anderson is the senior female on every flight she takes and one of five females on the Boeing 747-400. She was the second female hired to Northwest Airlines some twenty-two years ago. As a fellow pilot, I recognize the dedication and continual commitment to education that flying demands.

Ms. Anderson was inducted into the Lewisville High School Hall of Fame in 2001 and honored as a Distinguished Alumna at Texas Woman's University in 1996. Sandy Anderson established and managed the first endowment fund as a founding board member representing the airline aviation industry for international organization. In the first seven years of the fund's existence, it has distributed more than \$3 million in aviation scholarships.

Today, Anderson speaks at conferences and schools to spread the message of reaching for your dreams. She has an especially close connection with the young girls who have dreams of being in traditionally male oc-

cupations. Anderson believes that these girls need support along the way if they too are to accomplish their dreams.

I am proud of representing such a heroine. Sandy Anderson is an astonishing example of a determined person who would not settle and made her dreams a reality against the odds. She is a role model not only to women but also for everyone who has obstacles to overcome in reaching their goals.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION CONDEMNING RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION AND INTOLERANCE IN INDIA

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Mr. PITTS and myself to introduce this Resolution to condemn the alleged statements and actions of complacency by the government authorities in Gujarat, led by Chief Minister Narendra Modi, in the face of the religious persecution of the Gujarati people.

In February of 2002, India experienced its greatest human rights crisis in a decade: orchestrated violence against Muslims in the state of Gujarat that claimed at least 2,000 lives in a matter of days. Three years after that horrific incident, Narendra Modi, the Chief Minister of Gujarat has been indicted by various Indian and International human rights organizations for lending his hand to the violence.

Mr. Modi himself has not been shy about proudly professing his anti-Christian, anti-Muslim, and anti-tribal stances. He has repeatedly dehumanized the Muslim population of his state by accusing them of treachery; he has actively sought to interfere in the practice of the Christian faith in Gujarat, and he has caused wide-scale displacement of indigenous populations in the State in the face of stiff popular resistance. I find Mr. Modi's actions to be of the most reprehensible sort.

In an article in the Hindu Times on March 2, 2005, former Indian President K.R. Narayanan stated that "there was a 'conspiracy' between the BJP governments at the Centre and the state behind the 2002 Gujarat riots . . .". Further, a number of Indian human rights organizations, international human rights organizations, and a former Supreme Court Justice all recognize Chief Minister Modi's complicity in the violence.

He has attacked Muslims and Christians with vile venom, and according to both India's highest court and many international human rights groups, has condoned terrible, violent religious hate crimes, all the while, shielding those said to have committed them. In fact, in a scathing indictment of Mr. Modi, the Supreme Court of India referred to the Chief Minister and his government as "the modern day Neros". Moreover, in a recent unprecedented order, the Supreme Court of India ordered the reopening of all the criminal cases that Mr. Modi has closed, regarding over 2000 police cases in which the non-Hindu victims filed reports of rapes, killings, and destruction of their property.

Such actions by high ranking government officials of any religion are unacceptable and must not be tolerated.

I urge my colleagues to join me in condemning religious intolerance and promoting religious freedom, so that others may see what our great democracy stands for.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF
FORMER U.S. REPRESENTATIVE
WILLIAM LEHMAN

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today we mark the passing of William Lehman, retired Member of this august body and exemplary human being. Mr. Lehman was born in Selma, Alabama on October 5, 1913. His reputation for honesty was developed early in life when he moved to Miami and opened a used car business. Television viewers got to know "Alabama Bill" through his commercial advertising. Auto buyers in Dade County quickly realized that he always treated his customers fairly.

In the early 1960s, he began teaching English literature in Dade County public schools, where he was highly valued and greatly respected by his colleagues and his students. Building on his success as an educator, he was elected to the school board in 1966 and became its chairman in 1970.

In 1972, Bill ran for Congress in the newly created 13th District, winning easily. From then until his retirement in 1992, he was a tireless advocate for the citizens of northeast Dade County. He quickly rose to a position of prominence in the House of Representatives, becoming chairman of the Appropriations Committee's subcommittee that oversaw highways, seaports and mass transit systems. Public transit was always important to Bill Lehman, as he knew it was a lifeline to employment, grocery shopping, doctor visits and other necessary services for poor and working class citizens.

In addition to normal Congressional business, Mr. Lehman's career in the House of Representatives was noted for many remarkable deeds. Among those were his trips to Cuba and Argentina to secure the release of political prisoners and the brave venture of smuggling an artificial heart valve into the Soviet Union to save the life of a critically ill woman. Throughout his career in Congress, Bill Lehman was known as an "unbending liberal." This is one of many characteristics that endeared him to me. He was a friend of more than thirty years, a mentor and a very important role model. By his very nature, he was a constant source of inspiration and encouragement to people who work every day to make our world a better place.

Florida, America, and the world have lost a giant with the passing of William Lehman. To paraphrase another famous American political leader known for his honesty, Abraham Lincoln, the world will greatly note and long remember the life of Bill Lehman. May he rest in peace.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF WEBB COUNTY JUDGE LOUIS
BRUNI

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to tell the Congress about a man who works constantly to ensure the people of Webb County Texas get the services they need from the local government. Judge Louis Bruni is and always has been committed to working for others; he is the ideal public servant.

The sixth-generation Laredoan has held multiple positions of service to the community from his first position in 1994 as a Laredo City Councilman up to his current position as the Webb County Judge. Every post Judge Louis Bruni has occupied he has pumped out results to the people he so faithfully serves. As Laredo City Councilman he played an influential role in securing funding for roads and recreational areas within his district and also was a driving force behind the construction of the city library.

In 2001 he was elected to serve as the Webb County Judge. It can be seen in this position that he currently holds how dear to his heart the people of Webb County are. He has efficiently allocated the resources of Webb County to better serve the populace in a countless number of ways. Take for instance his environmentally conscious idea of turning all carbon-based waste materials into electric power creating an extra energy source sufficient enough to power 800 additional houses. Not only is he a crusader for the proper usage of the environment, he also wants to ensure all his fellow members of Webb County get the first-class economy they deserve. His life in the public sphere should be a model for people who want to give all they can to their communities.

Mr. Speaker, Judge Bruni is not alone a public servant but also a father of two amazing children Fredick and Allison, and I am proud to that him for everything he had done for our community.

IN MEMORY OF JUNE RITCHIE
CHAMBERS, M.D.

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a distinguished American, Dr. June Ritchie Chambers, who died on January 24, 2005, at the age of eighty.

June Ritchie was born in Parkersburg, West Virginia, and graduated from West Virginia University. She attended its School of Medicine before transferring to the Western Reserve University School of Medicine in Cleveland, Ohio. She completed residencies in Internal Medicine and Psychiatry at Charleston Area Medical Center Memorial Hospital, practicing Psychiatry at Shawnee Hills and working as an Internal Medicine specialist as well.

June Ritchie Chambers was married to her husband John T. "Jack" Chambers, also a Charleston physician, for 57 years. In 2002,

together with their son and wife, John and Elaine Chambers, my constituents, they donated \$1.5 million to their alma mater, West Virginia University, establishing a program to train students in electronic business techniques.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our deep sympathy to the family of June Ritchie Chambers and to honor her lifetime of remarkable accomplishments and service to her community and her country.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF
MRS. MARGIT WORSHAM

HON. WILLIAM L. JENKINS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Margit Worsham, a resident of the First Congressional District of Tennessee. Mrs. Worsham is being recognized for her extraordinary efforts by the Tennessee General Assembly, and I would appreciate having the opportunity to recognize her efforts here in the United States House of Representatives as well.

Margit, along with her husband Earl, has been a tireless contributor to Sevier County, Tennessee. Through her efforts she has been directly involved and/or responsible for raising over \$2,500,000 in benefits to aid those in need.

Margit has served as the Sevier County United Way Chairman, breaking fundraising records during her tenure. She has also served in a variety of capacities within the community; serving as Board Chair of the Sevier County Arts Council, Board Member of the Gatlinburg Gateway Foundation, Board member of Leadership Sevier, member of the Gatlinburg First and Lasting Impressions Committee, Board Member of the Sevier County Bear & Boar Club, and the Sevier County Representative on the Nine Counties One Vision organization. On top of that, Margit has also served as an organizing member of Gatlinburg's Fourth of July Parade, Taste of Autumn event, Vision Conference, and the Leadership Sevier Graduation Event.

While those missions should be enough to keep Margit fully occupied, she also serves with several conservation groups working to protect the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the Atlantic Salmon.

When asked to describe her personality, a fellow volunteer remarked that her enthusiasm, friendliness, positive attitude, and energy made her a natural leader. It was also noted that Margit never delegates a job she is not willing to do herself, and never asks for contributions until and unless she has done so herself.

Mr. Speaker, residents like Margit Worsham are the reason many local communities flourish. Margit, and thousands like her, contributes so much time and effort to ensure that important causes and important people continue to be assisted or protected. We should always recognize these valuable personal assets to our local communities, and I ask that the House join me in honoring this remarkable woman.