

Alice moved to South Pasadena, California in 1983. In 1989, Alice was elected to the South Pasadena Board of Education and was the first Asian American woman to be elected to that body. She served on the board for 8 years, serving as President for one term, until her retirement in 1997.

Together with her late husband, Dr. Karl J. Hwang, and former South Pasadena City Councilman Paul Zee, Alice co-founded the South Pasadena Chinese American Club. The club has been successful in fostering understanding between the Chinese American community and other ethnic groups, raises funds to provide grants to South Pasadena teachers, and awards college scholarships.

After her husband's untimely death, Alice returned to school and earned a multiple subjects and bi-lingual teaching credential in 1993. Currently an ESL teacher in the Adult Division of the Alhambra School District, she is also a member of the California Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages and a presenter at their annual state conference in 2003.

Alice has served as a board member of the Young Men's Christian Association, the South Pasadena Educational Foundation and the South Pasadena Chinese American Club, and on the committee to protect the South Pasadena Public Library system. She is also a volunteer for the Pacific Asia Museum and serves as an interpreter for parents in the local schools. In 1993 she received the Outstanding Woman of the Year Award from the Kiwanis Club and an award from the Los Angeles County Commission on the Status of Women in 1996.

In addition to her service to the community, Alice sings in her church choir, is a classical pianist and guitarist and a former member of the Arroyo Singers. She is the proud mother of Victor and Michael.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring an outstanding woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Alice Lan-Hua Hwang. The entire community joins me in thanking Alice for her success and continued efforts toward making the 29th Congressional District a more enjoyable place in which to live and work.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF
MERTIS LOUISE FLOYD SCOTT

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2005

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, Mertis Louise Floyd Scott, Deputy Chief Nurse of the G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery Veterans Administration Medical Center in Jackson Mississippi, passed away unexpectedly after a very short illness on October 15, 2004 at the young age of 48. She dedicated her life to the care of others and I take this opportunity to remember that life that so blessed us.

Mertis exemplified the meaning of nursing and received numerous professional awards during her twenty-six years of service at the VA Medical Center. In May of 1989, Mertis was named recipient of the Secretary's Award for Excellence in Nursing, presented to her by Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs Edward J. Deriwinski in Washington, DC.

She also received a citation from President George H.W. Bush.

Mertis held high the values of leadership and exhibited a continual quest for knowledge. She had a commitment to service through any challenge with a positive attitude.

Mr. Speaker, Mertis always remembered her faith and commitment to serve God and man. She defined her humanity by her service to patients and health providers alike. Her colleagues defined her life with these words: loving, caring, nurturing, generosity, patience, angelic personality. She was an inspiration to the lives she touched both personally and professionally. We mourn her passing, but we remember and celebrate her life.

A TRIBUTE TO PAMELA M. JUNIOR

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Pamela Mary Johnson-Junior who has committed herself to strengthening her community through her work on the Community Planning Board.

Pamela was born in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn and still resides there today. Pamela and her twin brother are the last of 10 children born to Booker T. Johnson and Ina L. Johnson.

At age 16, Pamela graduated a year early from high school and attended Long Island University. Later, she transferred to John Jay College of Criminal Justice and majored in Criminal Justice Administration and Planning.

Pamela learned at a very early age the importance of community involvement and as a teenager, she became actively involved in her Block Association. Soon thereafter, she was elected President of the Teenage Association of the 500 Decatur Street Block Association. However, her interests in politics extended beyond the local level. When Jesse Jackson ran for the Presidency of the United States, she took a two month leave of absence from her position as a Legal Assistant at one of Wall Street's top law firms, where she had been employed for over 16 years, to volunteer her services at Jesse Jackson's Bedford Stuyvesant based campaign headquarters. Nearly twenty years later, Pam continues to maintain a 50+ hour work week at the firm.

In the 1990's, Pamela became actively involved in Bedford-Stuyvesant community affairs and began attending monthly community meetings at Community Board No. 3 and at the 81st Precinct. This opportunity provided her with first-hand experience and knowledge of the needs of the community. In 1996, she was appointed to Community Planning Board No. 3 by then Borough President Howard Golden. In 2000, she was elected to the position of 2nd Vice President of the Board and in 2001 she was elected to the position of 1st Vice President of the Board, which she has held for several years.

During her tenure as Economic Development Chairperson of the Board, Pamela has spearheaded the 197a Plan for Bedford-Stuyvesant, collaborating with health professionals, churches, tenant associations, community activists, block associations, and Pratt Institute. She also solicited and helped raise

over \$250,000 to fund the 197a Plan. Pamela has forged relationships between the Community Planning Board and various New York City agencies in an effort to build the commercial corridors in Bedford-Stuyvesant and has worked closely with the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce and elected officials in the development of the Fulton F.I.R.S.T. Initiative. Finally, she has held weekly meetings during the summer months to ensure that community residents were informed of new and upcoming developments.

Mr. Speaker, Pamela Mary Johnson-Junior has been a leader in her community through her efforts to improve our educational system and serve those in need. 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.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF QUIN
HILLYER OF THE MOBILE REGISTER

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2005

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a recent contribution of Mr. Quin Hillyer, editorial writer for the Mobile Register.

As many in this chamber are aware, former Alabama Attorney General and current 11th Circuit Court of Appeals Judge William Pryor has faced numerous difficulties with his nomination to a full-time position on that court by the President. As I speak today, it is my understanding that Judge Pryor's nomination to a lifetime appointment will again come up for consideration within the next few months.

During introductory remarks I delivered at the original confirmation hearing for then-Attorney General Pryor, I stated that he has earned the political respect of many, including his political foes. He has consistently sided with constitutional precedent in making his decisions, and throughout his career he has received very high ratings for his legal ability and very high ethical standards. Judge Pryor has received the backing and strong support for a lifetime appointment to the 11th Circuit from men and women from all across Alabama's political spectrum.

Mr. Speaker, I am hopeful Judge Pryor will receive a favorable and impartial decision on the matter of a permanent appointment to the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals, and I would encourage those involved in that process to take a fair and unbiased look at his record. To that end, Mr. Hillyer has written what I feel is a very impassioned and well-reasoned argument for why Judge Pryor should receive this appointment. This article appeared in the Wall Street Journal on March 3, 2005, and I ask my colleagues to carefully consider the comments he makes here.

CROSS COUNTRY: PRYOR IMPRESSIONS

(By Quin Hillyer, Mobile Register)

If judicial nominations represent the spear-point of all of the partisan battles in Washington, former Alabama Attorney General Bill Pryor is the poison on the spear. Judge Pryor, whose renomination to the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals could get a Senate hearing as early as March 9, has become a folk hero to conservatives nationwide while

drawing fierce denunciations from liberal editorial pages. Come to Alabama, though, and the cognoscenti from all shades of the political spectrum find the controversy badly misguided.

Here, the Republican Pryor—at age 42, now serving a mere temporary appointment to the 11th Circuit—is the darling not just of right-leaning editorial boards. He enjoys near-universal support even from newspapers that endorsed Al Gore and John Kerry, from elected officials both Democrat and Republican, black and white—and even from the Democrat who Mr. Pryor defeated for attorney general.

The liberal Anniston Star, for instance, in the same editorial that urges filibusters against most of President Bush's nominees, writes that “Pryor, who possesses a brilliant legal mind, cannot be so easily dismissed. . . . Pryor has been proven capable of setting aside his ideology when it matters most. . . . [He] helped shut down [Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore's Ten Commandments] side-show and, in the process, displayed personal courage. That alone ought to convince Democrats currently blocking a vote on Pryor to give him a chance.”

Why do Alabamians so strongly back Judge Pryor? Because they've seen him in action defending Democratic lawmakers against Republican lawsuits, defying the Republican governor (Fob James) who appointed him, and spending countless hours establishing a youth mentorship program through the attorney general's office. They know him, up close, as a man of integrity and compassion.

National critics have gone to prodigious lengths to muddy that home-state record. Unfairly so. Consider that critics have accused Judge Pryor of being insensitive to women because he successfully argued against one small portion of the Violence Against Women Act. But Judge Pryor's constitutional point was virtually incontrovertible, namely that rape doesn't qualify as “interstate commerce.” His goal was to keep authority for prosecuting rapes in state courts, where (in Alabama at least) the juries are likely to be harder on rapists than elsewhere. Meanwhile, he has been praised throughout Alabama by groups that aid victims of domestic violence. Mobile's Penelope House women's shelter even named him to its Law Enforcement Hall of Fame.

The story is similar on every issue on which he has been criticized. Somebody served Sen. Dianne Feinstein poorly, for example, when providing her a quote from Judge Pryor that made it sound like he advocated the Christianization of government. But the quote came from a speech to his alma mater—McGill-Toolen Catholic High School, in Mobile—the point of which was not that the government should be Christian but that Catholics have a duty to be good citizens. (As it turned out, he was citing St. Thomas Aquinas, hardly a great threat to the American order.)

Critics have also accused him of race-based opposition to one portion of the Voting Rights Act. Why, then, is Judge Pryor supported by Alabama's lone black, Democratic congressman, and by its two most prominent black, Democratic legislators, and by its black Democratic National Committeeman? And on the case in question, Judge Pryor was backed by Georgia's black, Democratic AG, Thurbert Baker, who also endorsed Bill Pryor's judicial nomination.

Obviously, there is a disconnect between the interest-group and liberal-media assumption that Southern conservatives, especially Alabama ones, likely have racist tendencies, and the obvious reality of Judge Pryor's genuinely warm relationships with so many of Alabama's black leaders. Part of the ex-

planation lies in the fact that Alabama has indeed come a long way since Bull Connor. Also important is that Judge Pryor's native Mobile, especially its old-line Catholic sector in which he grew up, handled civil rights with far more aplomb than Bull Connor's Birmingham—and with virtually no violence. Early on, then-Mayor Joseph Langan peacefully integrated the city's bus lines. And Bill Pryor's own high school, where his father was band director, integrated comfortably in the '60s, well before he matriculated.

Judge Pryor would say, correctly, that his jurisprudence aims at helping neither victims nor powerful interests, but merely at following precedent and the Constitution. In his closing arguments against the judicial vigilantism of Alabama's then-Chief Justice Roy Moore, he said: “In our system, a judge must follow the final decision of other judges, even when he is convinced they're wrong. . . . The answer this court must provide to every judge in Alabama is that no judge is above the law.”

That's why, against his own personal predilections, he refused, as attorney general, to enforce part of a new state law against partial birth abortions: because that section contradicted clear U.S. Supreme Court precedent. That's why, against his own predilections, he enforced the very portion of the Voting Rights Act that he and his Georgia Democratic counterpart opposed. And that's why the leader of Alabama's top black, Democratic organization endorsed him as a judge who “will uphold the law without fear or favor,” while former Democratic AG Bill Baxley said Judge Pryor always acts “without race, gender, age, political power, wealth, community standing, or any other competing interest affecting his judgment.”

Yes, we in Alabama proudly support Bill Pryor. His career—as public intellectual, successful prosecutor, cultural-bridge-builder and man of conscience even at his own political peril—represents many of the traits the national media has always said Alabama lacks. Until he came along, our most famous exemplar of such character was the fictional Atticus Finch. Now that we can offer a real-life Atticus, we're more than a little angry that the Washington elites want to reject him.

TRIBUTE TO TOM KENNEY

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2005

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, my congressional district in Riverside, California is extremely fortunate to have a dynamic and dedicated group of community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give of their time and talents to ensure the well-being of our city and county. These individuals work tirelessly to develop voluntary community action to improve the community's economy, its education, its environment and its overall quality of life. One individual, who is a member of this group, is Tom Kenney.

On the 19th of March, Tom will be honored with the Ira D. “Cal” Calvert Distinguished Service Award by the Corona-Norco Family YMCA. The award is given in memory of my father, “Cal” Calvert, and his enumerable philanthropic gifts to the community and his efforts to encourage others to serve their community in a similar fashion. The award recognizes Tom for his exceptional devotion to developing community volunteerism.

Tom was born in Pennsylvania, but moved to California during his service with the Navy. He met and married Barbara Keith, a school teacher in the Corona-Norco Unified School District, attended Riverside Community College and graduated from the University California, Riverside. After 12 years with Prudential Insurance Company, and earning an M.B.A. from University of Southern California, Tom moved to take what became a series of executive jobs. In 1995, Tom and Barb, with their sons Christopher and Patrick, took the opportunity to purchase the Key-Freeman Agency and move back to their California home. Tom has been involved in many community organizations, serving on the boards of Corona-Norco United Way, the Corona Rotary Club, the Corona Library Foundation, and the Corona Chamber of Commerce.

Tom's tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of Corona, California. Tom has been the heart and soul of many community organizations and events and I am proud to call Tom a fellow community member, American and friend.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. ROSS DUNN

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2005

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Ross Dunn, a longtime Chambers County Commissioner who recently passed away. In January, Mr. Dunn was honored for his service to the community and to the state. He was always eager to serve mankind.

After graduating from Lanier High School, he pursued his dream of serving in the military by enlisting in the Army. Following his service to the nation, Mr. Dunn earned his degree at Alabama State University.

Throughout his life, Mr. Dunn exemplified his ability to promote change by becoming the first African American to serve in many organizations. Among his many achievements, he was the first to serve on the Chambers County Pension and Security Board, the first to serve as principal of two schools in Harris County, and the first to be elected to the Chambers County Commission. He has been listed in “Men of Achievement,” “Personalities of the South,” “Personalities of America,” and all the editions of “Who's Who Among Black Americans.”

Words cannot express the sense of sadness we have for his family, and for the gratitude our community feels for his service. Our community will remember him for years to come, and I am honored to be able to recognize his achievements on this day.

JUSTICE FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE TULSA RACE RIOTS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss a matter of justice. The Tulsa Race