

and raised in Bayonne, Dr. Smith works at the Bayonne Medical Center.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Jack Smith for his brave work in Afghanistan. We are grateful for his courage in the face of danger and his service to our country in the name of freedom.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
SAN MARCOS CITY COUNCILMAN
DANIEL GUERRERO

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the important achievements of San Marcos Councilman Daniel Guerrero, of my Congressional District.

Daniel Guerrero is a native of San Marcos, and graduated from San Marcos High School in 1995. He decided to further his education and earned his Bachelors Degree in Mass Communication/Public Relations in 2000 from Texas State University.

Mr. Guerrero was elected to the San Marcos City Council in 2004. He is actively involved in the community, giving his time to a variety of organizations that work for the public good. He has worked as City Councilman to improve city planning and the city's quality of life.

Daniel Guerrero served as President of LULAC No. 654, and was appointed by the City Council to serve on the Arts Commission. He is an inspiration for his public service, and believes deeply in the role of the community in supporting and encouraging strong families.

Daniel currently works as a national recruiter and professional development specialist with Inroads, Inc. He is a member of the Austin Chapter of the Society of Mexican American Engineers and Scientists, the Texas State University Alumni Association, and Omega Delta Phi Alumni Association.

Mr. Speaker, Daniel Guerrero's career as a public servant has done credit to the city of San Marcos, and I am proud to have the opportunity to thank him.

HONORING DELEGATE JAMES H.
DILLARD

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Delegate James H. Dillard for over 21 years of dedicated service to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Delegate Dillard has served as Delegate to the Virginia General Assembly from 1972–1977 and then again from 1980–2005. Delegate Dillard represents the 41st District in central Fairfax County. He served in the United States Navy from 1955 to 1957 and received a B.A. from The College of William and Mary and a M.A. in Political Science from The American University.

Delegate Dillard previously served as a Fairfax County teacher and principal and began his political career as a member of the Fairfax

Education Association by working to establish a living wage for teachers in the 1960's. His strong interest in education led him to be one of the original architects of the Virginia Standards of Learning. Additionally, he was chief sponsor of legislation placing a guidance counselor in every elementary school, and has been recognized as National Legislator of the Year by the Guidance Counselors Association.

As Chairman of the Natural Resources subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee, Delegate Dillard initiated the largest growth in parks and conservation activities in Virginia's history. Delegate Dillard was the author and chief sponsor of the Virginia Soil and Siltation Act which protects streams and waterways from pollutants. He has also worked behind the scenes to ensure the development of the Leesylvania State Park sailing marina, one of the finest facilities of its kind on the Potomac River and has been recognized as Legislator of the Year by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to extend my best wishes to Delegate Dillard on his retirement from the General Assembly. Through his long and distinguished career Delegate Dillard has touched the lives of countless Virginians. While I know that he will be greatly missed, his retirement is well deserved. I call upon my colleagues to join me in honoring Delegate Dillard and in wishing him the best of luck in all future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, March 21, 2005 I was unable to return to Washington from California for consideration of and the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 686, for the relief of the parents of Theresa Marie Schiavo. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 90.

COMMENDING SEA EDUCATION AS-
SOCIATION STUDENTS WHO
AIDED IN RESCUING 49 HAITIAN
REFUGEES

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, very few of life's important lessons come from a book. That is the educational philosophy of the Sea Education Association, a unique program based on Cape Cod to teach hands-on seafaring skills to young men and women. SEA offers college students a rigorous semester "overseas" that challenges them intellectually and physically by combining study of the deep ocean with the sailing adventure of a lifetime.

After extensive classroom training, 22 SEA students and a crew of 11 launched from Key West aboard the *Corwith Cramer*, a 134-foot sailing research vessel under the command of Captain Steve Tarrant. Five weeks later, the students were deploying oceanographic sam-

pling equipment near Jamaica when they spotted a small disabled vessel brimming with Haitian nationals, including many children. With search-and-rescue assets nowhere nearby, and with life and limb literally at stake, the students showed more than academic and navigational prowess. They acted from deep in their hearts.

What followed was a dramatic story of courage and compassion—a life-changing, hands-across-the-sea experience for rescuer and refugee alike. John Bullard, SEA president, summed it up in five eloquent words: "We're all in the same boat."

The enormity of the ocean has inspired for thousands of years. These students learned first-hand that men and women are also part of the natural rhythm of the sea, and resolved immediately to remain a part of the lives of the Haitians they encountered so far from home. All who follow in future SEA voyages can sail with deep pride in a mission that anticipates serious challenge—but that also embraces deep responsibility.

I commend to my House colleagues the following news account, one of dozens in the wake of this remarkable sequence of events:

[From MSNBC, Mar. 10, 2005]

U.S. STUDENTS AID RESCUE OF HAITIANS
ADRIFT AT SEA
(By Kari Huus)

For 22 U.S. college students on a voyage in the Caribbean, the six-week trip would have been an adventure to remember in any case, but their encounter with a boat full of Haitians adrift at sea made it a life-changing event.

The students, studying oceanography in a program called Sea Semester at Woods Hole, Mass., were about 45 miles north of Jamaica on Wednesday deploying some research equipment from their vessel, the *SSV Corwith Cramer*, when one student spotted what turned out to be a 25-foot open boat packed with 49 Haitians, including 14 children and infants. The Haitians had been heading for Jamaica, but were adrift after their boat lost its mast and rudder. Passengers on the distressed boat said they had been at sea for five days.

What to do was decided over the course of the next five hours. Through calls to the U.S. Coast Guard and Jamaican authorities, the students learned that the *Corwith*, a 135-foot sail-powered research vessel, was the only boat within reasonable range to rescue the Haitians. Jamaican authorities said they could not rescue the group of Haitians but would receive them.

But there were risks to be considered, said John Bullard, president of Sea Semester: "Piracy is one of them. Exposure to disease is another."

On the other hand, he said, if the research vessel "had just sailed away from 49 people . . . our students would have been scarred in other ways."

ASSESSING THE RISKS

Under the direction of the vessel's captain, Steve Tarrant, who leads an 11-person professional crew, calls went out to search-and-rescue experts and medical experts.

The decision was made to bring the Haitians aboard before the sun set. "We thought if we towed the vessel it might not survive that. We would end up fishing people out of the water," said Bullard. "We felt the safest action was to bring them aboard during the daylight when we could control some things."

As the Haitians gathered in a sheltered spot above deck on the research vessel, the crew cut the smaller boat loose after marking it with fluorescent paint to avoid sparking unnecessary search-and-rescue efforts if

it were spotted later. A meal of rice and beans was prepared for the unexpected passengers.

‘WE’RE ALL IN THE SAME BOAT’

An escort boat met the *Corwith* off the coast of Jamaica, and delivered the Haitians safely to Port Antonio early Thursday morning. The ship’s crew and students were resting in port before finishing off their sailing semester in Key West, Fla., on March 19.

The captain and students were not immediately available for comment, but Bullard said parents who were contacted expressed great pride in their children’s role in the rescue.

“What we have in our planned curriculum is the study of oceanography, and the history and literature of the sea and skills like navigation and weather forecasting,” said Bullard. “One thing you learn that is not in the curriculum is that we’re all in the same boat.

“This group of students got a chance to learn this literally.”

Waves of unrest and poverty have driven thousands of Haitians to seek refuge outside their country over the past decade. One common destination is Jamaica. Many Haitians are denied refugee status and forced to return home.

**HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF REVEREND L.A. WILLIAMS, JR.**

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Reverend L.A. Williams for his service to the Wheatley Heights First Baptist Church and to the San Antonio community.

Reverend L.A. Williams is a native Texan whose ministry reaches far beyond the walls of the Wheatley Heights First Baptist Church and into the San Antonio community. Currently serving as the Moderator of the Guadalupe District Missionary Baptist Association, College, Incorporated, and other organizations such as the Baptist Minister’s Union of San Antonio and Vicinity, Reverend Williams is always trying to reach out to the community to offer a helping hand.

Born in Houston, Texas, Reverend Williams attended E.L. Furr High School, and upon graduating studied at Southwestern Business College and the Union Baptist Bible College and Seminary. His awe-inspiring dedication to spreading the Word of God officially started when he delivered his first sermon on the third Sunday of July 1973 at the Greater Mount Olive Baptist Church. He went on to serve many churches across the state of Texas, but since 1984 he has found himself at Wheatley Heights First Baptist Church.

It is here in San Antonio that Reverend L.A. Williams has touched the lives of many and helped them realize that there is always much to hope for. Whether he is rebuilding the Church itself due to a flood or helping a kid in need, the Reverend always is serving his fellow man and woman to the greatest degree.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had the privilege and opportunity to recognize this man of faith, Reverend L.A. Williams.

**TRIBUTE TO HOSTOS COMMUNITY
COLLEGE MEN’S AND WOMEN’S
BASKETBALL PROGRAM**

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Hostos Community College Men’s and Women’s basketball programs for bringing championship trophies home to the Bronx. I am proud of this dedicated group of students for showing excellence on and off the court.

Under the leadership of Coach Renee Bostic the Hostos women’s basketball team set goals for themselves before the start of the season. Their relentless dedication and hard work paid off as they were the winners of the 2005 CUNY Athletic Conference Edison Basketball Championships for the second year in a row. Not to be outdone, the men’s team led by Coach Robert Holford captured the 2005 NJCAA Men’s Division III National Championship. This marks the first national basketball title won by a CUNY school since the 1950 CCNY men’s basketball team captured both the NCAA and NIT titles. Like the women’s program the men set early goals and followed through with their incredible work ethic.

These two programs have done surprisingly well despite the fact that they have been in existence for no more than three years. It is a great compliment to this institution that only in its third year of existence the men’s team has won a National Championship and that only in its second year of existence the women’s team has already repeated as CUNYAC regular season and Tournament champions.

The success that these two programs enjoyed on the court is much more than a reflection of their skills with a basketball but a reflection of their character. To reach the level of competition that these young people have achieved one must acquire certain qualities that will not only aid him/her in sport but in life as well; qualities such as discipline, patience and perseverance. I am proud to say these athletes have carried these qualities over to the classroom and are all top tier students.

Vince Lombardi once stated that “excellence is not a sometime thing.” With their performance on and off the court, I think the men and women’s basketball teams of Hostos Community College have demonstrated that these are words they live by.

Mr. Speaker, I have no doubt that if these young men and women continue to exert themselves on and off the court they will be victorious in the game of life. Therefore, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the outstanding student athletes of Hostos Community College in the Bronx.

**CELEBRATING THE TEXAS
LYCEUM’S 25TH ANNIVERSARY**

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Texas Lyceum on their 25th Anniversary. The Texas Lyceum, a non-

profit, non-partisan organization, is the foremost incubator of leaders in Texas.

The original Lyceum was a grove of trees in ancient Athens where Aristotle educated the leaders of the day on issues critical to the time. Key issues were debated and focused through the lens of enlightenment and character. So, in 1980 when a group of young leaders recently named “Rising Stars of Texas” by Texas Business magazine, began exploring the idea of establishing a leadership confederation based on providing solutions to problems in Texas, Aristotle’s Lyceum seemed an appropriate model.

Tieman H. “Skipper” Dippel and an impressive group of founders including: Bud Shivers, Mike Hopkins, Ann Quirk, Jim Windham, John Connally, III, Rob Mosbacher, Ken George, Scott Bennett, and others too numerous to mention teamed with Texas Business magazine and George Kozmetsky to establish this forum which represents the diversity of the state and emphasizes constructive responses to issues critical to Texas.

The Lyceum has always endeavored to bring out the best in people and enlighten the next generation to the power of ideas. It teaches leaders to focus on where they are alike rather than how they are different while still valuing the rich diversity of Texas. To accomplish these purposes, the Lyceum conducts quarterly meetings to educate its Directors and other policy makers on the important issues of our times and sends its members back into the community armed with the most up to date information available.

The Lyceum also publishes the Journal of the Texas Lyceum, a mainstay for policymakers looking for insightful and thoughtful solutions. Each issue is edited to be in keeping with the Lyceum’s philosophy of valuing differing opinions from our state’s leaders. This document was invaluable to me and my colleagues when I served in the Texas Legislature.

Twenty-five years later, the Texas Lyceum boasts over 600 alumni and 96 current directors. Judging from where Lyceum alumni can now be found it is obvious that the Lyceum has successfully met its goal of educating the next generation of leaders in Texas. The Lyceum should be extremely proud of its accomplishments.

From the courtroom to the board room, from farms and ranches to the world of high tech, from medical centers to the oil fields, from education intuitions to houses of worship, and from city councils to the halls of Congress and even the White House, Lyceum alumni are woven through the leadership structures of the state of Texas and this nation. Numerous state legislators, Members of Congress, a sitting U.S. Senator, the current Governor and even the current President of the United States are all Lyceum Alumni.

The Texas Lyceum membership reflects the rich diversity of Texas and succeeds because it seeks to identify and prominently promote the unique values of our state that bring us all together as Texans.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in saluting the over 600 men and women who have participated in the Texas Lyceum since its inception in 1980. For a quarter century now the Texas Lyceum has been committed to promoting the stewardship of the values, traditions, resources and diversity that is Texas.