

her age a secret even while spreading her secrets to successful lobbying: Never beg for votes, don't assume you know everything and don't threaten anyone.

"She carries no flip phone, beeper or Powerbook," the Baltimore Sun said in 1995. "[Miss] Dubrow keeps her daily schedule on a card in her appointment calendar in her purse. And her yearly expenses are less than what some spend in telephone bills alone."

President Bill Clinton awarded her the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1999, calling her "a tiny woman, larger than life" who was "renowned for her grace, candor, and integrity, [who] has earned the respect of opponents and allies alike."

Unapologetically liberal, she had friends among both Republicans and Democrats, telling Washingtonian magazine in 1997: "In Washington you should never write off anybody. You'll be surprised where tomorrow's allies come from."

She came from Paterson, N.J., the daughter of immigrants from Belarus who found work in factories of New York and New Jersey. She got her start in labor activism handing out fliers about the Spanish Civil War in New York's Union Square. She graduated from New York University's School of Journalism and joined her first union, the Newspaper Guild, while working at the Paterson Morning Call newspaper.

She soon moved into full-time union work, as a secretary in the Textile Workers Union and as an assistant to the president of the New Jersey Congress of Industrial Organizations. She was one of the organizers of Americans for Democratic Action in 1947 and worked for the ADA until 1956. Legendary labor leader David Dubinsky hired her as lobbyist for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and sent her to Washington.

Miss Dubrow was in her mid-forties when she became one of a mere handful of female lobbyists in Washington. When she started, the federal minimum wage was \$1 an hour; equal pay was rarely mentioned and the law allowed discrimination in housing, hiring and health care. She fought long and hard for improvements in all those areas, and later, against the North American Free Trade Agreement, which eroded the jobs of American union members who made clothes.

"When I started this job, we were worried about sweatshops," she told The Washington Post in 1997. "Today we're still worried about sweatshops."

She was named vice president of the ILGWU in 1977, and when the union merged with another to form UNITE! (United Needleworkers, Industrial and Textile Employees), she became vice president and legislative director, then special assistant to its president. She was a founder of the Coalition of Labor Union Women.

Miss Dubrow became well recognized off Capitol Hill in time. In 1971, Ladies' Home Journal named her one of the 75 most important women in America, and in 1982, the old Washington Business Review called her one of the city's top 10 lobbyists.

Never married, with no immediate family survivors, she reveled in her many nieces and nephews. She also enjoyed poker, gin rummy and reading the classics.

In the 1970s, she endured four years of Metro rail construction in front of her D Street SE home. Her only complaint about it, she told The Post in 1977: "Their construction in front of my house caused my shoes to get muddy. But for two weeks, every day, one of the workers would go have them polished and bring them back to me."

FREEDOM FOR REINALDO MIGUEL LABRADA PEÑA

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Reinaldo Miguel Labrada Peña, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Labrada Peña is a peaceful pro-democracy activist and a member of the Christian Liberation Movement. His life is dedicated to the proposition that the men and women of Cuba must be free: free to learn, free to worship, free to enjoy their inalienable human rights. Unfortunately, the nightmare that is the Castro regime continues to violently oppress the people of Cuba, including those that bravely make known the atrocities committed against the Cuban people for the world to see.

In March 2003, as part of the regime's heinous crackdown on peaceful, pro-democracy activists, Mr. Labrada Peña was arrested. In a sham trial, he was sentenced to 6 years in the totalitarian gulag.

Mr. Labrada Peña is languishing in an inhuman, grotesque gulag simply because of his religious convictions and his desire to live in liberty. According to Amnesty International, he has been denied access to religious services and has inadequate ventilation in his squalid cell.

Mr. Labrada Peña is representative of the fighting spirit of the Cuban people: of their rejection of the brutality, discrimination, depravity, and oppression of the totalitarian tyranny. Thousands languish in the gulag because, like Mr. Labrada Peña, they refuse to accept the tyrannical dictatorship in Cuba today. It is reprehensible that, at the dawn of the 21st Century, men and women like Mr. Labrada Peña are still locked in dank dungeons because of the tenets of their faith.

Mr. Speaker, it is unconscionable that peaceful Cubans of all genders, creeds and colors are locked in Castro's barbarous gulag because they believe in a free Cuba. While the entire world sits by and ignores the suffering of the Cuban people, brave men and women like Mr. Labrada Peña represent the best of mankind. My colleagues, we must demand freedom and human rights for all people, including those who live under the darkness of totalitarian regimes. We must demand immediate and unconditional freedom for Reinaldo Miguel Labrada Peña and every prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

IN MEMORY OF MR. RICK MERRITT

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and memory of Mr. Rick Merritt of Lighthouse Point, FL. Rick passed away on Father's Day, June 18, 2006, after a courageous battle against cancer. I had the privilege of meeting Rick in 2002, as he was extremely helpful to me during my time in the House of Representatives. Rick was a tal-

ented ally who used his ability and creativity to develop his own computer software programs. He was a patient man who spent many hours educating folks on technology, and how they could use computer software programs for their benefit. Rick's personable demeanor made him approachable and always accessible. He truly used his talents to teach others and better serve his fellow man.

Rick was also a strong advocate in protecting consumers and businesses in their dealing with the U.S. Postal Service. To this end, Rick was Executive Director of Postal Watch, a national watchdog group committed to advocating a consumer approach to postal reform. He was also active in the Wednesday Meeting that brought together folks from around the country to Washington, DC to discuss issues facing our Nation.

Roughly a year ago, Rick was diagnosed with cancer. Instead of withdrawing from his fight against cancer, Rick faced the challenge with courage and a spirit of determination. Although Rick lost his battle with cancer, his spirit lives on among his family and friends. My thoughts and prayers are with Rick's wife, Debbie, his daughter, Tobi; his mother, Lois; brothers, Scott, Mark and Michael; and the rest of the Merritt family during this time.

Rick loved his country, stood by his principles, was never afraid to take a risk and could always be counted upon to be there during the toughest times for his family, his colleagues and his friends.

Mr. Speaker, I was privileged to call Rick Merritt my friend.

HONORING DR. JARRELL JACKMAN FOR 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Dr. Jarrell Jackman for his dynamic and committed leadership of the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation.

Dr. Jarrell Jackman has been a leader of the Trust for Historic Preservation for 25 years, serving first as Historic Projects Administrator and, since 1987, as Executive Director. In a unique partnership with the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation, the Trust operates El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park that attracts 50,000 visitors annually from Santa Barbara and from around the world.

Under Dr. Jackman's leadership, the Trust bought and maintains for future generations the Mission Santa Inez Mills, significant remains of mission-period grist and fulling mills. In addition to acquiring and maintaining historic sites, the Trust preserves the diverse cultural heritage of Santa Barbara through its research, interpretation, educational programs, archeological work, historic restoration and preservation efforts. They work cooperatively with local jurisdictions and with dozens of state agencies, museums, private foundations, schools, and businesses to ensure that the rich cultural history of the central coast not only lives on for future generations but is accessible today.

The Trust has completed major construction projects for El Presidio de Santa Barbara

State Historic Park: the Chapel, the Comandancia, the Northeast Corner and (the soon to be completed) Northwest Corner, making El Presidio the most fully restored Presidio in the United States. The restored Casa de la Guerra and El Presidio have become significant museums, hosting many lectures, performances, visiting exhibits and celebrations, due in large part to the dedication and expertise of Dr. Jackman.

Dr. Jackman served honorably on the Santa Barbara County Historic Landmarks Advisory Commission and has consistently been a forceful voice for the preservation of county historic structures. Among his many honors are the prestigious Norman Neuerburg Award from the California Mission Studies Association in February 2001 and the 2006 California League of Park Associations' Dewitt Award for outstanding partnership.

I have seen firsthand many of the great programs and preservation efforts of the Trust. We, as a community, benefit greatly from the skill and leadership of Dr. Jackman. I am pleased to commend Dr. Jarrell Jackman for his dedicated service to the Trust for Historic Preservation and to the preservation of many of the Central Coast's treasures. I look forward to the Trust's continued success. Congratulations on 25 great years!

IN RECOGNITION OF CHARLES (CHARLIE) J. BECK FOR HIS 36 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CITY OF FAIRFIELD

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the exceptional value of Charlie Beck's 36 years of dedicated service to the citizens of Fairfield.

After graduating from Sacramento State College in 1970, Charlie was hired by the City of Fairfield as a Junior Civil Engineer and in 1972 became the City's first Traffic Engineer.

Two years later Charlie moved to the Corporation Yard to become the Manager of Street, Drainage, Signs, Traffic Signals, and Equipment Maintenance Division.

In 1980 Mr. Beck became the City's first Assistant Public Works Director and in 1985 added City Engineer to his title. Under this position Charlie was responsible for the management of Development Review, Engineering Design, Capital Improvement Projects, Traffic Engineering, and Public Works and Building Inspections.

In 2000, Mr. Beck was appointed to the position of Director of Public Works for the City of Fairfield. Under his supervision, he managed 190 Public Works employees, including Engineers, Technicians, Inspectors, Maintenance Personnel, and Support Staff.

Mr. Beck's attitude of "doing it right the first time" and "build it to stand the test of time" has served the City of Fairfield well in the past and will serve the City well into the future. A long-term retired employee said it best when he referred to Charlie's knowledge of masonry which he learned from his father. He said that with every action Charlie took since he started employment with the city, he placed each brick and made sure it was level before mov-

ing on to the next one. With that approach, he built a great foundation for the city.

He is recognized by his co-workers as a model of integrity and a great mentor. Mr. Beck's wisdom and office presence will truly be missed.

Charlie Beck has spent his entire career working for his community and for the citizens of Fairfield. As he enters retirement I would like to wish Charlie, his wife Joyce, and his family many wonderful years of happiness, prosperity, and good health.

DECLARING THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL PREVAIL IN THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, we face a critical challenge in Iraq with no certain outcome. While those in the White House and the Majority may want to use this debate as an opportunity to gloss over the situation and cast aspersions at their opponents, now is the time for a serious and sustained conversation within our government and among the American people about how we can end the occupation and do so in a way that maximizes Iraq's chances to govern and defend itself.

A brief survey of the status of our operations confirms the gravity of our position.

First, consider our strategic interests in the conflict. The Administration's entire case for invading Iraq has proven false. The President's claims about nuclear weapons, chemical weapons, biological weapons, links to terrorism, an imminent threat—they were all wrong. CIA weapons inspectors followed every plausible lead to find weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, and came up empty. We might have known the outcome of this search had we showed more patience with international weapons inspections before the President launched the invasion. We have also confirmed what many of us suspected at the time, that the alleged links between Saddam Hussein and Al Qaeda terrorists were fabricated and false. In fact, with the CIA now calling Iraq the world's number one terrorist training ground, we have ironically created a problem that did not exist when we set out to solve it. And we diverted attention and assets from Afghanistan, which truly was ground zero in the anti-terrorist offensive.

Indeed, we have engaged in a war of choice that has actually made our nation less safe. Congress has poured over \$400 billion into Iraq that was entrusted to us by American taxpayers, dealing a serious blow both to our economy and to the many critical domestic programs that have been cut, essentially to help pay for the war effort. We have overextended our military, damaging recruiting and retention efforts and leaving our military units undermanned, underequipped, and exhausted from repeated deployments. We have created a terrorist breeding ground in Iraq that may threaten our security for years to come. And, by fueling tensions both between sectarian groups inside Iraq and between Iraq and its neighbors, like Iran, Syria, and Turkey, this war has stirred up a dangerous hornet's nest

that could lead to significant regional conflict. In short, our national security is at far greater risk now than three years ago when the war began.

Despite these shortcomings, the new "unity government" led by Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki represents some progress in our political efforts, produced by the successful conduct of a handful of elections, a constitutional referendum, and sustained negotiations between major Shi'a, Sunni, and Kurdish political parties. These successes are the most positive story we have to tell in Iraq. If Iraq's leaders choose to work together to unite their nation and prevent sectarian agendas from tearing the Iraqi people apart, there will be hope for achieving stability and democracy in that country.

Unfortunately, Iraqi leaders have not yet made clear what their choice will be. They have not yet shown the unity of purpose and political courage that will be necessary to hold their country together after the U.S. departs. They have not yet proven that they can set aside their sectarian agendas. Most importantly, they still must prove that they have the power to reach out beyond the green zone to influence Iraqi citizens and lead them toward unity and peace. Here, especially, the jury is still out on the extent of progress.

U.S. taxpayers have spent \$20 billion on reconstruction projects, but have only limited concrete results to show for their investment. Tens of millions of dollars were irresponsibly squandered through poor management and questionable contracts with companies like Halliburton. The Coalition Provisional Authority was unable to account for the use of nearly \$9 billion in U.S. and Iraqi reconstruction funds. According to conservative estimates, up to a quarter of reconstruction funding has been diverted away from reconstruction activities to pay for associated security costs. Furthermore, much of the reconstruction work that has been carried out has been ineffective. In an October 2005 audit of over \$250 million in water and sanitation projects, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) found that over one-quarter of the projects were "inoperable or were operating at lower than normal capacity."

The results of this mismanagement are striking. Over half of all Iraqi households still lack access to clean water, and 85 percent lack reliable electricity. Oil production remains well below pre-invasion levels. A quarter of Iraqi children suffer from chronic malnutrition. More than a quarter of Iraqis—possibly up to forty percent—remain unemployed. By any standard, the reconstruction effort has fallen disastrously short.

Unfortunately, the Bush Administration appears to have learned the wrong lesson from these reconstruction failures, proposing no additional funding to rebuild Iraq and support the civilian population. Without additional funding, our reconstruction efforts will come to an end even though we remain far short of our goals. The Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction (SIGIR) has reported that more than two-thirds of planned health care centers, over 60 percent of planned water sector projects, and a third of planned electricity projects will not be completed due to lack of funds. The answer is not to give up on Iraq reconstruction altogether, but to find effective ways to make reconstruction projects work.