

before she died, at the annual WRL dinner, the organization paid tribute to Becker's profound influence on the struggle for peace. WRL and peace activists across the country mourn her loss and send condolences to her daughter and son-in-law, Diane and Stephen Tosh, her daughter-in-law Anita Becker, and her four grandchildren, Sarah, Nicholas, and Katrina Tosh and Alicia Becker.

A TRIBUTE TO REVEREND
WILLIAM J. SHAW

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2006

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an enduring and rightfully honorable man, Dr. William J. Shaw. His dedication as pastor to the White Rock Baptist Church has provided the community with exemplary guidance for 50 years. His commitment to preaching is recognized both nationally and internationally.

Reverend Dr. Shaw will be honored as a true Living Legend July 2006 in Dallas, TX, by The E.K. Bailey Ministry. A well-respected pastor and family man, Dr. Shaw has most recently been a recipient of the Unitas Award given by Union Theological Seminary and the T.B. Maston Foundation Christian Ethics Award given by Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The Reverend has continually provided outstanding leadership with consistent community involvement throughout his lifetime. A native Texan, Dr. Shaw was baptized by the age of seven. He gave his first sermon at the youthful age of 11 and was ordained as a Pastor of the Oak Hill Baptist Church in Texas by the age of 17.

Presently, Dr. Shaw is serving a second term as President of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. In addition, he has served on a multitude of boards, allowing him to guide the convention's efforts.

On behalf of the Dallas, TX, community, I commend the Reverend's many years of exceptional service.

ECONOMIC REVIVAL OF FLUSHING:
ALL DUE TO IMMIGRANTS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce an article titled *Changing Face of Queens: From Small Asian Shops to High-End Stores* from the June 28 edition of the *New York Times*. The article, by Alison Gregor, describes the economic development of Flushing and the large-scale mixed use condominiums that are being built in the area. It is evident that ethnic tradition and culture are the driving force behind these developments.

There is a huge Asian population in Flushing that has disposable income that is currently shopping in Manhattan or even in Manhasset on Long Island. The retail potential of the neighborhood has attracted commercial developers and big-name businesses. The presence of the thriving immigrant community

is the lure that is drawing the developers and spurring the revival of the desolate West Flushing neighborhood.

In fact, Queens Crossing, a 12-story office condominium project, is being built by Mr. Michael Lee, president and CEO of TDC Development L.L.C. and a longstanding resident. With the added convenience that Flushing has to offer, Queens Crossing is going to be a destination for shopping, food, entertainment, education, medical and business services. Queens Crossing is only the first in the line of many development projects that are going on in Flushing. The Flushing Commons, under the direction of TDC Development and the Rockefeller Development Corporation, an even more ambitious project, is expected to be completed in about four years. Lastly there is the Flushing Town Center of the Muss Development Company, the largest mixed-use development project in New York City.

The United Nations has recently reported on the beneficial effects of the immigrant population to their newly adopted countries. The renewal of Flushing is a real example of such an effect, repeating what the immigrants are doing to all our New York City to improve our communities. We are experiencing a wonderful revitalization of New York City because of our traditional role as a welcoming city for the pursuit of the American dream.

I wish to draw the attentions of my colleagues to the redevelopment of Flushing neighborhoods and remember the positive aspects of immigration.

CHANGING FACE OF QUEENS: FROM SMALL
ASIAN SHOPS TO HIGH-END STORES

(By Alison Gregor)

If you're looking for cafes serving bubble tea or herbalists offering dried lotus blossoms or purveyors of waving-cat trinkets, downtown Flushing, the city's second-biggest Chinatown and the largest urban center in Queens, has them in large quantity. But in the next few years, the area may also welcome a host of more mainstream retailers.

Almost 1.3 million square feet of retail space is planned in at least three major mixed-use developments—about the same area as at the renowned Mall at Short Hills in New Jersey—and a few hundred thousand feet of office space is also being developed. The first new stores are to open by the end of this year.

Flushing is already a pan-Asian enclave that is a first stop for many immigrants from China, Korea and Malaysia, among other countries.

Developers are hoping it will soon be a stop for American shoppers. "You have to make this area a destination," said Michael Meyer, president of TDC Development L.L.C., which is involved in two of the mixed-use projects.

Mr. Meyer is relatively new to the community. But the chairman and chief executive of TDC, Michael Lee, an immigrant from Taiwan, arrived in Flushing two decades ago and has purchased a substantial portion of the area's properties. TDC is a subsidiary of the F&T Group, a real estate company.

Mr. Lee owns the Flushing Mall, a long-standing collection of boutique shops and restaurants on 39th Avenue, where signs are in Chinese and Korean. He also developed the nearby Prince Center in 2003; it is a complex of ground-floor retail space, now full of restaurants, and office condominiums that netted about \$500 a square foot.

Office condos are fairly unusual for New York City, but the market is receptive in Flushing. "What drives a lot of this is the whole ethnic tradition and culture; the Chinese mentality is very much an ownership mentality," Mr. Meyer said.

Mr. Lee is building another office condominium project: Queens Crossing, a 12-story building being framed at the corner of Main Street, Flushing's main shopping artery, and 39th Avenue. It will have 190,000 square feet of office space in about 80 office condominiums, and 86,000 square feet of parking.

The building has a waiting list of more than 200 businesses, Mr. Meyer claimed. "Queens Crossing sales, on a net square footage basis, are now estimated at \$750," he said.

The development will also have about 110,000 square feet of retail space, which has not yet been leased. It will open by the end of this year. "We're looking for mainstream retailers like bookstores and health clubs and restaurants and apparel stores," Mr. Meyer said.

But Queens Crossing would be dwarfed by another proposed development a block away called Flushing Commons, which envisions having a total of almost two million square feet. Flushing Commons is expected to be completed in about four years on the site of a municipal parking lot that now has space for about 1,100 vehicles.

That development, with 500 residential units and about 350,000 square feet of retail space, will aim to attract more upscale retailers than currently operate in Flushing. While the city has given approval to the general concept of this project, it is still going through public hearings.

Thus far, the developers of Flushing Commons—Mr. Lee and a partner, the Rockefeller Development Corporation—envision that much of the retail space will be used by a multiscreen cinema, a national-chain bookstore and a supermarket like Whole Foods, along with some smaller stores. Roughly 15,000 square feet of space dedicated to office condominiums is being envisioned for professionals like doctors and lawyers.

Flushing Commons will also include a 200-room hotel, where developers would like to see a Westin, Mr. Meyer said.

Alan L. Stein, a senior vice president at Rockefeller, said the developers, which won a bid to develop the city-owned property a year ago, had promised not to introduce any "big box" stores into the complex.

Robin Abrams, an executive vice president of the Lansco Corporation, a commercial real estate brokerage firm that consulted on the project, said she envisioned retailers like Scoop, Cole Haan and Sephora setting up shop in the development.

Stores like those "are all over Manhattan, but don't have a presence in Flushing," Ms. Abrams said. "Frankly, the thought is there's a huge Asian population that has disposable income that is currently shopping in Manhattan or even in Manhasset" on Long Island.

Mr. Meyer said that some retailers might be intimidated by the ethnic nature of the market, but that the developers believed they could convince them that they had nothing to fear.

Also, retailers that already have outlets in Asia would be comfortable in downtown Flushing, said Josh Segal, owner of the Segal Realty Group, a commercial real estate firm that also consulted on Flushing Commons. "It's like Shanghai on the Flushing River," he said.

Already going in alongside the Flushing River is one of the largest mixed-use developments. The Muss Development Company is building 1,000 residential units in several towers on a 14-acre site. The \$800 million project will also include an 800,000 square-foot shopping center anchored by national retailers.

The first phase of the project will not be completed until 2008 at the earliest, said Jim Jarosik, a senior vice president at Muss.

Flushing residents are watching the explosion of commercial development closely. Real estate professionals say Home Depot and Target are rumored to be anchor tenants at the Mussy project, which is called Flushing Town Center, although the developer would not identify the stores it was negotiating with.

Some Flushing residents say they believe that if retailers of that sort go into the development, there may be traffic backups along Roosevelt Avenue, said Chuck Apelian, vice chairman of Community Board 7, which represents downtown Flushing.

Downtown Flushing, a transportation hub that has 24 bus lines and the terminus of the No. 7 subway, is an area that is used by nearly 100,000 commuters daily, according to the Downtown Flushing Transit Hub Business Improvement District, and has become synonymous with traffic congestion. A group called Save Our Flushing Community has formed to protest the Flushing Commons project. Others maintain that additional traffic snarls would not hurt business.

Even if retail rents head far north of the \$100 a square foot paid at certain locations on Main Street, the owner of Pho Vietnamese on Prince Street, Tai Ma, who has lived and worked in Flushing for 29 years, said he welcomed the new commercial development. "The rent here is going high anyway," he said. "If you want to develop Flushing, you need something big."

HONORING CAPTAIN JAMES MAES

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2006

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, July 14, 2006 the Coast Guard Sector Miami will be holding a Change of Command ceremony. The event will also be the retirement ceremony for Captain James Maes who will be retiring after 26 years of distinguished service in the United States Coast Guard. The Coast Guard represents the best in public service and selfless sacrifice for our fellow Americans, and I am proud to be a strong supporter of the Coast Guard's vital missions.

An occasion such as this serves to remind us of the important role the Coast Guard serves in defending our national security, ensuring public safety, facilitating commerce, and protecting the environment. Many have contributed for the benefit of protecting our shores, for the safety of those who travel to and from our coastlines, and for the general support our law enforcement and maritime communities gain from key cooperation with the Coast Guard.

Coast Guard Sector Miami is the first Sector in the history of the Coast Guard. It was established in Miami Beach on July 12, 2004. Sector Miami is one of the busiest and most dynamic operational units in the Coast Guard. The 650 active duty, reserve and civilian, men and women, and 1000 Auxiliary volunteers who make up Sector Miami continue in the long tradition of dedicated service in South Florida. That tradition dates back to 1876 when the U.S. Lifesaving Service established the Biscayne House of Refuge at a location near what is now 72nd and Collins on Miami Beach.

Under Captain Maes' leadership, Coast Guard Sector Miami units saved hundreds of lives, and seized thousands of pounds of illicit

drugs. Sector Miami implemented and enforced new port security requirements under the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002, the most sweeping regulatory changes for the Coast Guard since World War II. He fully integrated the Coast Guard into regional security operations during the Free Trade Area of the Americas in 2003, and the Organization of American States General Assembly in 2005. Captain Maes was the incident commander for rescue and recovery operations after the tragic Chalk's Flight 101 crash, the largest loss of life aviation disaster in the United States since 9/11. During the devastating 2004 and 2005 hurricane seasons, Coast Guard Sector Miami made critical decisions to restore essential ports for commercial traffic, and open waterways for recreational boaters, as quickly and safely as possible.

That is why I am pleased to call myself a supporter of the United States Coast Guard. I congratulate Captain Maes on his distinguished service, particularly the past 3 years in South Florida where he will leave a legacy of trust and cooperation among federal, state, local, volunteer, and marine industry partners. I would also like to welcome Captain Karl Schultz and look forward to the continued success of Sector Miami.

IN TRIBUTE TO ANNE FORRESTER, ACTIVIST AND AMBASSADOR

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Anne Forrester, a tireless advocate who gave her life so that others could understand and appreciate the freedoms we exercise daily in America. Ambassador Anne Forrester, who served our Nation as head of the office of Ambassador Andrew Young in the Department of State and then as Ambassador to Mali during the administration of Jimmy Carter, succumbed to pancreatic cancer on June 23, 2006 at her home in New York City. She was memorialized at a service at the National Cathedral in Washington on Saturday, July 8, 2006. A woman of sound moral character and grace, Anne Forrester lived for others and irreversibly changed everyone she met.

Born in Philadelphia in 1941, to a widowed social worker in a country very divided among race lines, Mrs. Forrester knew from experience what it felt to be denied, pushed aside and undervalued. She was a woman, a colored woman with an intellect and courage that extended beyond her small delicate frame. However, despite all of these challenges, she became a pioneer being among one of the first African American women appointed to serve as a United States Ambassador.

Mrs. Forrester is noted not only as one of the first African American women appointed to ambassadorship in 1979 by President Jimmy Carter to Mali but for her contributions to the great movements of the 1960s and 1970s, the struggle for the attainment of civil rights and the resistance to the folly of our engagement in Vietnam. She channeled her displeasure with America's domestic policies to produce change in government through direct action. Later in her career, Anne became the staff di-

rector of the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on Africa. Her desire to share the hard-won freedoms gained by blacks in America with those in Africa laid the groundwork for a career of service to the people of Africa which replicated her commitment to equality and justice for Blacks in the U.S.

Mrs. Forrester had a special relationship with the continent of Africa. As a young child, she vividly recalled various pleas from missionaries in her church describing a world and place she would later explain and describe in her own words and from her own personal experience. As a student in Bennington College in Vermont, Mrs. Forrester in 1962 made her first trip to Africa, traveling to Uganda with a summer cultural exchange program. She later earned her Masters Degree in African Studies from Howard University in 1968 and her Ph.D from the Union Institute & University in Cincinnati in 1975.

Ambassador Forrester served as a Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). Her work for the U.N. was exemplary, exhibiting the true qualities of a humble yet determined civil servant. As an official observer for the U.N., Mrs. Forrester traveled abroad to a variety of locales. Also as a mother and advocate for reform and peace, Mrs. Forrester was a doer whose work in the U.N.'s regional bureau for Africa under Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, now President of Liberia and as a guest scholar at the Smithsonian Institution's Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars garnered a lot of praise and attention.

We all mourn the loss of such a true pioneer, who took positions and voiced her opinion at times when voices of opposition were not welcomed. What I hope people will gain from her life is that anything is truly possible and that you can aspire to achieve no matter how dire the situation or circumstances. Her selfless acts should be remembered and praised.

I enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to illustrate to my colleagues Anne's special qualities the obituary published in the Post on July 3, 2006 which provides an insight into Anne Forrester's humanitarian efforts and accomplishments. She has truly left her mark on our society and she will always be remembered for that. We must keep her memory alive in our hearts and minds so that generations after us will know who she was and what she did. One will not be able to speak about the progress made in the struggle of people of color during the 1960's and 1970's for civil rights and equality of opportunity in the U.S. and for self determination and freedom in Africa and the Caribbean without bringing up her name, for she has without a doubt made great contributions to both areas.

[From the Washington Post, July 3, 2006]

ANNE FORRESTER, AMBASSADOR TO MALI

(By Patricia Sullivan)

Anne Forrester, 65, former ambassador to Mali who had an abiding professional interest in Africa and the African diaspora, died of pancreatic cancer June 23 at her home in New York City.

Ms. Forrester was appointed to the ambassadorship in 1979 by President Jimmy Carter and was one of the first African American women to hold the post. A scholar and activist in the 1960s, she made the transition into a position of power in government and diplomacy.

"What I represent is the generation that learned traditional values in the 1950s, was