

Reverend James E. Harris to include: Family Counseling and a Youth Christian Basketball League to reach the youth of the Clayton County community. After the most devastating natural disaster in the history of the United States struck in 2005, Dixon Grove Baptist Church responded to the needs of evacuees by providing assistance through its Community Food and Clothing Co-operative.

Please join me in honoring Dixon Grove Baptist Church and Reverend James E. Harris for their commitment to Jesus Christ's example of faith and giving. It is my sincere hope that the ministry and work of Dixon Grove Baptist Church prospers for another 50 years.

CAPUANO PROVIDES LEADERSHIP ON DARFUR

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, no crisis confronting the world is as grave as that in Darfur, Sudan, where genocide is a tragic fact. America's failure to act more vigorously in this regard is a grave error. It is true that there are other nations, including many in Africa—which bear some of the blame. But we must not let the inaction of others become a justification for our own failure to take steps that we know to be morally necessary to save lives. My colleague from Massachusetts, (Mr. CAPUANO), on his return from a trip to Darfur led by the gentlewoman from California, the Democratic Leader, wrote a forceful article in the Boston Herald for March 7th making the case for much firmer action by the U.S. and others in Darfur.

Mr. Speaker, given the moral imperative of action, I hope all of our colleagues will agree with the gentleman from Massachusetts who writes that "I urge the President to fully support the U.N. peacekeeping mission and put the full weight of the U.S. military behind it. More troops, with a mandate to protect civilians, are desperately needed. . . . If the U.N. cannot meet this timetable, we must strengthen the AU force and provide additional civilian support."

Mr. Speaker, at a time when people compete with each other to stress the importance of the moral element in politics, our colleague from Massachusetts (Mr. CAPUANO) has struck a clear note on one of the overriding moral issues of our time, and I join him in calling on the President and the rest of us to take prompt action.

U.S. MUST WORK TO HALT DARFUR GENOCIDE (By Michael Capuano)

We look back on the Holocaust and wonder how the world stood by while 6 million Jews were slaughtered. Never again, we pledged. Yet in 1994, 1 million Rwandans were massacred. Afterward, we declared it genocide and pledged never again. Many leaders later expressed deep regret over our inaction.

In 2003, our attention was drawn to Darfur, Sudan, where innocent civilians were being murdered, enslaved, raped and driven from their homes. We declared it genocide, but failed to act, again.

Since 2003, more than 400,000 people have been murdered in Darfur and 2 million more displaced. I just returned from Sudan, on a trip led by House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi.

In Al Fashir, Darfur, we met with relief workers, traveled to Internally Displaced Persons camps and spoke with African Union (AU) personnel. This reinforced my conviction that genocide is still occurring, the government of Sudan is responsible and not enough is being done.

We also met with Sudanese government officials who claimed the suffering in Darfur was exaggerated. There were skirmishes over water and grazing rights, they said, but nothing to concern outsiders. They admitted funding the Janjaweed, the militias who attack civilians, yet vehemently denied genocide is occurring. Everyone else we spoke with, AU personnel and relief workers, recognize they are witnessing genocide.

There are 7,700 AU personnel on the ground. However, they don't have a mandate to protect civilians and lack sufficient resources. Without a drastic troop increase and outside logistical assistance, the AU will continue struggling. AU officials told us they need more support and are planning for the involvement of a United Nations force. But the government of Sudan, the perpetrators of the genocide, rejects U.N. involvement.

I have persistently called for the protection of civilians and an end to the violence. Attempts to address this crisis legislatively have faced resistance. I have tried to introduce amendments to a State Department bill and a Foreign Operations bill, authorizing the president to use all necessary means to stop the genocide. These amendments were blocked.

President Bush and U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan recently discussed a U.N. peacekeeping force for Darfur. The president has publicly called for the doubling of peacekeepers. I urge the president to fully support a U.N. peacekeeping mission and put the full weight of the U.S. military behind it. More troops, with a mandate to protect civilians, are desperately needed and must arrive in the next couple of months. If the U.N. cannot meet this timetable, we must strengthen the AU force and provide additional civilian support.

President Bush recently said America was first to recognize the genocide in Darfur. He said, "Our country was the first country to call what was taking place a genocide, which matters—words matter."

Actions matter more. It's time to back our words up with action. Time is running out.

HONORING JOHN ROSS, DR. JENNIFER STEWART-WRIGHT, AND RAY BELL

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor today to acknowledge the achievements of Tennesseans who have made a tremendous contribution to our community.

Savannah resident John Ross has committed a great deal of energy to the conservation of our state's wildlife and natural resources. In recognition of this work, he has been named 2004 Land Conservationist of the Year. John's passionate advocacy work and his effort to educate others on this issue are a great example to the community, and I want to thank him for his involvement.

Dr. Jennifer Stewart-Wright of Fairview was honored by the Harpeth River Watershed with the River Steward Award for her active work

on multiple restoration projects and her efforts as a professor at Tennessee State University. Dr. Stewart-Wright has made this a family affair with the assistance of her children, Selah and Jesse, who share their mom's passion for revitalizing and protecting our waterways.

Mr. Ray Bell of Franklin has been awarded the Lane W. Adams Quality of Life Award for his years of service to helping those diagnosed with cancer. A cancer survivor himself, Ray has dedicated countless hours not only to cancer patients but to their families as well. Ray's compassion and commitment are incredibly inspiring and a blessing for those facing this disease. We all thank him for his work.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring, thanking and congratulating these outstanding Tennesseans for making a difference in their communities.

WOMEN'S BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER'S CELEBRATING 20 YEARS CREATING SUCCESSFUL WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESSES 1986-2006 CELEBRATING THE PAST CHALLENGING THE FUTURE

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, the Women's Business Development Center (WBDC) is a nationally recognized nonprofit women's business assistance organization, devoted to providing services and programs that support and accelerate women's business ownership and strengthen the impact of women on the economy.

The year 2006 marks the beginning of the third decade of the WBDC's successful commitment to meeting the needs of women entrepreneurs for greater opportunities in business ownership. Founded in 1986 by S. Carol Dougal and Hedy M. Ratner, more than 50,000 women in Illinois have benefited from its programs and services including counseling, entrepreneurial training, child care business development, strengthening of emerging businesses, Latina Initiative providing business development programs in Spanish in economically disadvantaged communities, certification and business opportunities for women's business enterprises and financial assistance and loan packaging.

The WBDC has worked for 20 years to economically empower women and their families, striving to influence the larger political and economic environment in a way that encourages and supports women's economic empowerment and minority business development.

The WBDC has affected the national women's business landscape helping to establish women's business assistance centers in six states. Now there are over 10.6 million women-owned businesses in the U.S., employing over 19.1 million workers, and over 350,000 of those businesses are in Illinois. Minority-owned businesses are growing faster than all firms, and 1 in 5 women-owned firms in the U.S. is owned by a woman of color. Women-owned businesses nationally generate over \$2.46 trillion in sales.

In 2006 the Women's Business Development Center celebrates its 20th anniversary.

As the Center moves into its third decade of service to women business owners and outstanding advocacy for the strengthening and support of minority and women owned businesses, I am proud to recognize its impressive achievements.

HONORING THE 2005 FOOTBALL SEASON OF THE LIVINGSTON ACADEMY WILDCATS

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the championship season of the Livingston Academy Wildcats. The Wildcats won their first state football championship at the Class 3A Blue Cross Bowl in December.

Residents of Overton County, Tennessee, can be proud of their Wildcats. The team fought against the odds as they went into the playoffs as the Number 4 seed in Region 2–3A with a 5–5 record. They impressively defeated four region champions on their way to the state football championship.

Early in the championship game, the Wildcats held a 21–0 lead over David Lipscomb. Showing great skill and determination, the Wildcats left MTSU's Floyd Stadium as victors with a 28–13 win over their competitor.

This group of Wildcats was the first football team in the school's history to advance past the quarterfinals. In addition, they became only the second team from the Upper Cumberland to win the state title.

I commend the Wildcats and their head coach, Matt Eldridge, for a wonderful season and an outstanding championship win. Danny McCain, Bobby Gore, Bruce Lamb, Grant Swallows, David Clouse and Dale Flatt serve as the team's assistant coaches. Gary Ledbetter is Livingston Academy's principal.

I congratulate all the talented members of the 2005 3A State Champion Wildcats: Jake Peterman, Jonathan Sullivan, Clint Cooper, Jamie Cravens, Levi Holt, Josh Simpson, Joe Reynolds, Wilson Cates, Mike Jones-Larue, Cody Waddey, Dustin Looper, Josh Carwile, John Michael Stephens, Jonathan McGill, John Cody Brown, Vincent Woodruff, Drew Cannon, Steven Morgan, Jamey Vaughn, Josh Huitt, Colton Hummel, Seth Melton, Kevin Scott, Jordan Bailey, Jake Reeder, Gary Massengille, Josh Coffee, Kiefer Smith, Tyler Livingston, Sam Nelson, Jeremiah Jackson, Terrance Melton, David Petry, Cody Shokoui, Blake Moon, Beau Massengille, Curtis Beaty, Levi Cobble, Volby Loftis, Brad Pendergraft, Ryan Bowman, Jesse Cole, Wade Ford, Josh Looper, Bobby Perdue, Jacob Coffee, Ethan Livingston, John Willeford, Robert Holt, David Ledbetter, Justin Gore, Ryan Duke, Jonathan Preece and Jacob Collins.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SUNSHINE IN MONETARY POLICY ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Sunshine in Monetary Policy Act, which re-

quires the Federal Reserve to resume reporting the monetary measure known as M3. M3 consists of M1 (M1 is currency in circulation plus travelers' checks, demand deposits, Negotiable Order of Withdrawal (NOW) accounts, and similar interest-earning checking account balances) plus M2 (M2 is M1 plus household holdings of savings deposits, small time deposits, and retail money market mutual funds balances except for balances held in IRA and Keogh accounts) plus institutional money market mutual fund balances and managed liabilities of deposits consisting of large time deposits, repurchase agreements, and Eurodollars.

The Federal Reserve Board has recently announced it will stop reporting M3, thus depriving Congress and the American people of the most comprehensive measure of the money supply. The cessation of Federal Reserve's weekly M3 report will make it more difficult for policymakers, economists, investors, and the general public to learn the true rate of inflation. As Nobel laureate Milton Friedman famously said, "inflation is always and everywhere a monetary phenomenon." Therefore, having access to a comprehensive measure of the money supply like M3 is a vital tool for those seeking to track inflation. Thorsten Polleit, honorary professor at HfB-Business School of Finance and Management, in his article "Why Money Supply Matters" posted on the Ludwig von Mises Institute's website mises.org, examined the relationship between changes in the money supply and inflation and concluded that "money supply signals might actually be far more important for inflation—even in the short-term—than current central bank practice suggests," thus demonstrating the importance of the M3 aggregate.

The Federal Reserve Board has claimed neither policymakers nor the Federal Reserve staff closely track M3. Even if M3 is not used by Federal Reserve Board economists or legislators, many financial services professionals whose livelihoods depend on their ability to obtain accurate information about the money supply rely on M3. For example, my office has been contacted by a professional money manager complaining that the Federal Reserve Board's discontinuing M3 reports will make it difficult for him to do his job.

Whatever lack of interest policymakers are currently displaying in M3 is no doubt related to the mistaken perception that the Federal Reserve Board has finally figured out how to effectively manage a fiat currency. This illusion exists largely because the effects of the Fed's inflationary policies are concentrated in malinvestments in specific sectors of the economy, leading to "bubbles" such as the one that occurred in the stock market in the late nineties and the bubble that many believe is occurring in the current real estate market. When monetary inflation is reflected in sector-specific bubbles, it is easier to pretend that the bubbles are caused by problems specific to those sectors, instead of reflecting the problems inherent in a fiat currency system. Once the damage to our economy done by our reliance on fiat currency becomes clear, I am certain that policymakers will once again take more interest in M3.

Economists and others who are following M3 have become increasingly concerned

about inflation because last year the rate of M3 rose almost twice as fast as other monetary aggregates. This suggests that the inflation picture is not as rosy as the Federal Reserve would like Congress and the American people to believe. Discontinuing reporting the monetary aggregate that provides the best evidence that the Federal Reserve Board has not conquered inflation suggests to many people that the government is trying to conceal information about the true state of the economy from the American people. Brad Conrad, a professor of investing who has also worked with IBM, CDC, and Amdahl, spoke for many when he said, "It [the discontinuance of M3] is unsettling. It detracts from the transparency the Fed preaches and adds to the suspicion that the Fed wants to hide anything showing money growth high enough to fuel inflation..."

Discontinuing reporting M3 will only save 0.00000699% of the Federal Reserve Board's yearly budget. This savings hardly seems to justify depriving the American people of an important measurement of money supply, especially since Congress has tasked the Federal Reserve Board with reporting on monetary aggregates. Discontinuing reporting M3 may not be a violation of the letter of the Federal Reserve Board's statutory duty, but it is a violation of the spirit of the congressional command that the Federal Reserve Board ensure the American public is fully informed about the effects of monetary policy.

Mr. Speaker, knowledge of the money supply is one of the keys to understanding the state of the economy. The least the American people should expect from the Federal Reserve Board is complete and accurate information regarding the money supply. I urge my colleagues to ensure that the American people can obtain that information by cosponsoring the Sunshine in Monetary Policy Act.

HONORING McDONALD AND ROSETTA CRAIG

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege today to honor McDonald Craig, the owner of a Tennessee Century Farm in Linden, Tennessee. On Christmas Day in 1871, Craig's great-grandparents, Tapp and Amy, purchased the 110 acre farm. Tapp and Amy Craig, freed from slavery after the Civil War, were the first African-Americans to buy property in Perry County.

The Craig family has owned and farmed this land in Perry County for more than 130 years. As a farmer and musician, Craig has not only maintained his family's legacy, but he has also made a name for himself as a country musician performing at local festivals and fairs.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing McDonald, his wife Rosetta, and their family for contributing so much to our community.