

Nation's founders and breathed life into America's experiment with democratic self-government.

Mr. Speaker, I have the great honor of representing a number of Greek-Americans in the Seventh District of New York. Their influence and active participation in the life of their communities has fostered economic, political and social growth throughout New York City.

Generations of Greek Americans have enriched every aspect of our national life, in the arts, sciences, business, politics and sports. Through hard work, love of family and community, they have contributed greatly to the prosperity and peace that we all enjoy as Americans today.

But as we celebrate Greek independence, we must keep in mind the ongoing struggle for freedom and demand for human rights on the island of Cyprus. I believe the United States and the international community must remain steadfast in our resolve to bring peace and unity to an island that has been home to violence and division for far, far too long.

Mr. Speaker, let me reiterate my strong commitment to Greek communities in my district, the country, and throughout the world. Their strength and dedication to democracy and peace in the world has made them a shining star of modern civilization.

IN HONOR OF CURTIS RELIFORD

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the dedicated work and inspiring courage of Curtis Reliford. Mr. Reliford's life story reflects the best of the American Spirit and reveals the incredible generosity to our nation's people.

Mr. Reliford experienced a troubled youth in his native Louisiana. In his early years, he was lured down the self destructive, illusionary path of drugs, alcohol, and money, all resulting in dead ends and unhappiness. Twenty one years ago, after much contemplation and perseverance, Curtis decided to move to California, with the hope of creating a better life for himself. In Santa Cruz, CA Curtis has found himself by aiding those who need a hand. He is an active member of the NAACP, and created his own business as a landscaper, a skill he used, and will continue to use, in Hurricane destroyed New Orleans. Through strong determination, great self-sacrifice, and enduring dedication, Mr. Reliford began his long healing process. He believes, and has proven, his calling to aid those who require and ask for assistance.

The fruits of Mr. Reliford's life transformation have been truly spectacular, not only benefiting our local community, but touching people's lives on a national level. Mr. Reliford is a small business owner and has started a non-profit community support group "Brothers teaching Brother." Most recently, Mr. Reliford has turned his sights back on his native Louisiana. Due to his selflessness, Curtis has been awarded the Jefferson Award from the County of Santa Cruz. His commitment to the assistance of others is inspiring. He also shows no signs of stopping.

After witnessing the devastating destruction wrought by Hurricane Katrina, Mr. Reliford, in-

spired by his daughter's proclamation of "Daddy, you can do anything!" decided to focus his nurturing spirit on the people devastated by Katrina. He began taking donations in Downtown Santa Cruz, in order to raise funds for those who lost their homes. Enough was collected to make a life altering trip down to Louisiana. Mr. Reliford has now completed three relief trips to the Gulf Coast, but he believes his work will not be complete until every person who lost their home receives full assistance. Mr. Reliford is setting up a new organization, "Follow Your Heart Action Network", dedicated to bringing continued help to people in the South.

Mr. Speaker, it is people like Curtis Reliford that make the United States the great country that it is, and it's truly an honor for me to represent individuals like Mr. Reliford. The service of local members of the community is an asset to this nation, and I applaud Mr. Reliford's contributions. Curtis Reliford's dedication to advancing the condition of human welfare throughout our nation has had a positive impact on countless individuals, and for that reason I rise in honoring him.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN H. STROGER, JR.

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great public servant: John H. Stroger, Jr., President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners.

John Stroger is the first African-American to have been elected as Cook County Board President after serving Cook County for many years in other capacities, including as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners Finance Committee. During his lifetime of public service, President Stroger has always served with distinction and with an unwavering dedication to improving the lives and well being of all of the residents of Cook County.

As Chairman, he was instrumental in the development and construction of a new hospital facility, which bears his name, John H. Stroger Hospital. The facility, which is state-of-the-art, serves the health needs of all of Cook county's residents, including the indigent and uninsured. John Stroger is the past President of the National Association of Counties and in that capacity, he provided leadership on public policy issues affecting local governments across the Nation. He was particularly concerned with the need of county governments to ensure health care access for all county residents.

Mr. Speaker, I know that you will join me in wishing President Stroger a full and speedy recovery from his recent illness and all the best to his wife and family.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. JADICK

HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, there is a physician in my district who deserves the

thanks of our Nation and this Congress for his actions in combat in Iraq.

Naval Commander Rich Jadick, MD, of the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta deployed to Iraq in the summer of 2004. He arrived just in time for the Battle of Fallujah, the heaviest urban combat American troops have endured in a generation.

Newsweek Magazine quotes Dr. Jadick's commander, Lt. Col. Mark Winn, that as a direct result of Dr. Jadick's courageous actions under fire, at least 30 U.S. Marines were saved from death.

During just 30 days of combat, Dr. Jadick treated over 600 Marines and Iraqi soldiers and civilians. He established a forward aide station well advanced beyond the safety limit prescribed for combat medical personnel. His courage in ignoring the danger to himself in order to provide life-saving treatment for wounded personnel led to his being awarded the Bronze Star with a "V" for valor.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of the Ninth Congressional District of Georgia, I commend and thank Dr. Jadick for his heroism and extraordinary service to his Nation and his fellow man.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE CUBAN-AMERICAN JEWISH COMMUNITY

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I offer congratulations to members of the Cuban-American Jewish Community who have contributed greatly to our Nation. They were elementary school classmates at the Plantel del Centro Israelita de Cuba and graduated from the sixth grade on June 20, 1958. Some of them were part of the Peter—Pedro—Pan Operation, which brought over 14,000 children and teenagers from Cuba who came to this country without their parents, thanks to the generosity of the U.S. Government. These Cuban Jewish children were cared for by the Hebrew Immigration Aid Society, HIAS, which assisted them in finding housing in foster homes and orphanages.

Despite the fact that they all left Cuba after 1959, they have remained in contact since. Most of these individuals will be celebrating their 60th birthday this year and are holding a reunion in Miami. It will be their first gathering as a group since they risked their lives in search of freedom and liberty to come to this great country that warmly accepted them with open arms. They are proud citizens and are very grateful for the opportunities they have enjoyed in this country such as freedom, peace and prosperity, opportunities that our brothers and sisters in Cuba do not enjoy. I am glad to see such a wonderful group of people committed to bringing freedom and democracy to Cuba.

Many members of the Cuban-American Jewish Community have had long and successful careers that span many years of outstanding service, dedication, hard work, devotion, and love for our country. They are successful parents, professionals, businessmen, community leaders and grandparents. I am proud to recognize the Cuban-American Jewish Community for their tireless dedication to

the well being of our South Florida residents. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Cuban-American Jewish Community for their wonderful service to our great Nation.

Below, I have included the names of the individuals that are part of this distinguished group. In parentheses are the married names of the women.

Aliva Lipschitz (Mingel), Aron Lew, Becky Gol (Eshkenazy), Berta Perelmuter (Faigenblat), Betty Kozolchuk (Savariego), Cecilia Lurie (Berenthal), David Vainstein, Eli Bick, Enrique Bekerman, Enrique Goldberg, Zolia Eva Becker (Don), Gela Arber (Altman), Isidoro Stein, Jacobo Fridzon, Jacobo Rydz, Jose Kluger, Joseph Roisman, Judy Derechinsky (Feder), Leon Kopel, Leon Papir, Luis Kosobucki, Luis Lidsky, Luisa Kopel, Manny Feinstein, Marcos Kerbel, Mark Faigenblat, Moises Golobovich, Nicky Vaserstein, Perla Radlow (Stein), Polita Rubinstein (Chyzyk), Rebeca Rosenzweig (Shapiro), Rebecca Roth (Glinksy), Richard Novigrod, Ruth Silber (Kurkin), Sara Hochman (Zands), Sarita Zditowsky (Blaugrund), Tere Treibich (Ben Hain), Toni Rosenberg (Taubenfeld), Vivian Celniker (Mechaber).

I would also like to recognize the loving memory of those who are no longer with us: Salomon Milner and Alberto Rabinsky.

HOWARD JUNIOR COLLEGE WINS REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Howard College for winning the NJCAA Region V Championship on March 12, 2006. Head coach Mark Adams led the Hawks to an 81–71 victory over their arch rival, Midland College, in spectacular fashion. With this victory, the Hawks have earned their first trip to the NJCAA National Tournament since 1969.

Even greater than their triumph on the court, the Hawks have overcome many obstacles and trials along the way. Last year, Howard sophomore Dezmon Harris lost his mother in the same week his team lost the Regional Championship game to Midland. With fierce determination and an unyielding desire to win, Harris led his team to victory this year and showed why he was recently named WJCAAC Player of the Year.

Since 1945, Howard College has been a beacon of education in my district. It brings me great pleasure to honor the athletic achievements of an institution that continues to be a leader in educating the young people of West Texas.

TRIBUTE TO MS. BEA'S COMMUNITY READING PROGRAM

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize a community reading program in Crowley, Louisiana founded by Joey Webb.

Ms. Bea's Community Reading Program organizes 20 community volunteers each week

to visit Ross Elementary School and work for half an hour in each of the four first grade classrooms. These patient and caring volunteers work one on one with the students to help them learn to read and improve their reading skills. To ensure the effort isn't just one day a week at school, the program issues each student a weekly reader to practice at home. In addition, the volunteers serve as valuable role models and inspire the students to continue learning and staying in school.

The faculty at Ross Elementary has commented that the impact of the program is improving the entire school. Although the program is focused on the first grade, students in the other grades have taken notice of the community members coming to the school. Students are working harder, classroom behavior has improved and they are more focused on schoolwork.

Earlier this year, I participated in the program and visited with several classrooms and spoke with them about the importance of learning to read and attending school. These young students are the future of Louisiana. As our state rebuilds from the devastation caused by two hurricanes it is now more important than ever that we inspire our youth to work to improve and contribute to our great state.

I want to congratulate Joey Webb and the citizens of Crowley on their dedication and spirit to help others in the community.

PEACE BETWEEN TAIWAN AND CHINA

HON. JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, on February 27, 2006, Taiwan's President Chen Shui-bian declared that Taiwan's Unification Council will cease to function and the National Unification Guidelines will no longer apply. This decision was made in an effort to guarantee Taiwan's freedom from communist China and its people's right to democratically choose their own future.

Since peace in the Taiwan Strait is critical to all nations in the region and military confrontation must be avoided, I urge China to suspend its jingoistic rhetoric towards Taiwan, rescind the Anti-Secession Law enacted last spring, and dismantle the hundreds of missiles targeted at Taiwan.

Furthermore, on the first anniversary of the passage of China's Anti-Secession Law and the tenth anniversary of The Taiwan Strait Missile Crisis, it is time for a meaningful dialogue between the communist Chinese leaders and the democratically elected leadership in Taiwan in order to find a peaceful resolution to their differences.

TRIBUTE TO SUSAN BAILEY- SCOTT, CARE AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. THELMA D. DRAKE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mrs. DRAKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Susan Bailey-Scott of Virginia Beach,

Virginia, upon receiving the Commonwealth Academy Recognition for Educators (CARE) Award.

The CARE award honors outstanding educators who work to enhance the lives of their students. This year's honorees are recognized for their unrelenting work to enhance the lives of the students they serve. It is presented by Commonwealth Academy, located in Alexandria, Virginia, and honors those committed to diverse learning throughout the nation. Susan Bailey-Scott, a middle school math teacher at Ruffner Academy in Norfolk, Virginia, is honored for her work in promoting diverse learners in the spirit of the No Child Left Behind Act.

Ms. Bailey-Scott has been teaching for nine years, including two years in Japan. She received her B.A. in Business Administration from James Madison University and her master's in Education from Old Dominion University. Ms. Bailey-Scott also has completed some post-graduate work at Old Dominion and William and Mary.

Ms. Bailey-Scott is the Math Department Chair at Ruffner, and she is very active in teacher training. She has been a cooperating teacher with both Norfolk State University and Old Dominion University teacher candidates and has been a presenter at numerous education conferences.

Ms. Bailey Scott has won a variety of awards for teaching, including Who's Who Among America's Teachers and Norfolk Public Schools District Teacher of the Year.

I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Susan Bailey-Scott and congratulating her on this distinguished achievement.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WEBSTER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th Anniversary of the founding of the Webster Volunteer Fire Department. Fifteen courageous citizens formed this outstanding and brave fire department on March 23, 1906. Since its inception, the department has had over 850 faithful volunteers that have protected the communities of East Webster, Village of Webster, and North East Penfield.

Today, the Webster Volunteer Fire Department has a membership of 140 brave firefighters who on average respond to 1200 calls per year. These calls for aid range from fires, accidents, emergency medical care and service calls; all showing the departments ability to assist the varying needs of the communities they proudly serve. In addition to their heroic tasks, the department also provides fire prevention programs, CPR and first aid training for all citizens. The Webster Fire Department also works closely with various neighborhood groups such as local Boy Scout troops, Girl Scout troops, and various other groups.

In honoring their 100th anniversary, the Webster Fire Department will begin its celebration with a Founders Banquet, followed by a gigantic Carnival and Parade for the entire community.