

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF CHARLES AURELIO HUDSON EYNON

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today, I am happy to congratulate Elizabeth and Teddy Eynon of Washington, DC, on the birth of their new baby boy. Charles Aurelio Hudson Eynon was born on March 17, 2006, at 9:09 p.m., weighing 8 pounds and 7 ounces. Hudson has been born into a loving home, where he will be raised by parents who are devoted to his well-being and bright future. His birth is a blessing.

HONORING FRANK G. JACKSON,
MAYOR OF CLEVELAND

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, SHERROD BROWN, MARCY KAPTUR, TED STRICKLAND, TIM RYAN, and I rise today in tribute and recognition of Cleveland Mayor Frank G. Jackson, as he was honored by the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party on March 26, 2006.

Mayor Jackson was elected last November to lead the City of Cleveland—a continuation of his lifelong activism and devotion on behalf of our Cleveland community. He is a United States veteran, having served our country in Vietnam. After being honorably discharged, he returned to his East 38th Street neighborhood—where his commitment to making a difference would only grow stronger.

Following his military service, Mayor Jackson armed himself with a focus on educational achievement. He attended classes at Cuyahoga Community College and in 1975, he graduated with a Bachelor's degree from Cleveland State University. In 1977, Mr. Jackson earned a Master's degree in Urban Studies from CSU. In 1983, after working his way through law school as a night clerk at Cleveland Municipal Clerk's Office, Mr. Jackson earned a law degree from the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. He worked as an assistant county prosecutor until his 1990 election to Cleveland City Council, representing Ward 5. For 15 years, Mayor Jackson focused his efforts on revitalizing the housing and commercial aspects of the Ward 5 community. He did so by forming vital bonds with neighborhood leaders and development organizations, and by setting a tone of integrity, diligence, commitment and cooperation among City Council members and City administrators—a vital relationship that remains strong today.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join us in honoring Frank G. Jackson, Mayor of the City of Cleveland, in recognition of his outstanding service and leadership focused on the people of the City of Cleveland. Mayor Jackson's integrity, energy, vision, unwavering service and complete devotion to his constituents continues to illuminate hope and strength throughout the streets of Ward 5 and throughout every Cleveland neighborhood—offering a

vision for a brighter tomorrow for every one of us along Ohio's north shores.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF GORDON PARKS

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, as St. Paul and our Nation say goodbye to a legend this month, I rise to lend my support to House Resolution 720, a resolution to honor the life of Gordon Roger Alexander Buchanan Parks. I hope that the House will soon consider this important resolution. Gordon Parks passed away on March 7, 2006 at the age of 93 after a courageous battle with cancer. With strong Minnesota ties, Mr. Parks became a world-famous photographer, filmmaker, and music composer. His work and life are an inspiration to artists and art lovers, and the people of St. Paul will be forever grateful for his contributions.

Mr. Gordon Parks will be remembered as an African American pioneer who used his experiences as a black man to create some of the 20th century's most powerful images for social justice. Mr. Parks was born in 1912, 1 of 15 children. He spent his young adulthood in St. Paul, where he developed his skills as an artist. Parks earned his first professional photo-journalist jobs with the Saint Paul Recorder and the Minneapolis Spokesman, which served as catalysts for the great work by the beloved artist we recognize today.

Mr. Parks was a true pioneer. He was the first African American to work as a photo-journalist for Life and Vogue magazines. As a trailblazing filmmaker, Mr. Parks was the first African American to write, score, and direct a Hollywood movie, "The Learning Tree." Mr. Parks was part of a generation of African Americans who directed and produced films that starred African Americans, like the film "Shaft." He was also committed to documenting poverty and racial injustice. Mr. Parks used the medium of film to tell the story of the black experience.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Gordon Parks, an artist who taught us about human dignity and the African American experience. St. Paul will always remember him for his many artistic contributions.

CONGRATULATING HIGHLAND HIGH SCHOOL

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Highland School District for its nomination for the 2006 Rising Star Award presented by People Do Matter, which is part of the Pittsburgh Human Resources Association.

This award was given to the school district because they demonstrated a link between Professional Development, their people practices, and their students' test score results and achievements by using innovative and emerg-

ing practices. They are the only school district to ever receive this award.

The Highland School District will receive the "Rising Star" Award on April 5, 2006 at a dinner at the Rivers Club in Pittsburgh.

I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Highland School District for receiving the Rising Star Award. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute such a dedicated school district as the Highland School District.

TRIBUTE TO RETIRING GENERAL LEON J. LAPORTE

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that General Leon J. LaPorte, Commander of the United Nations Command, Republic of Korea/United States Combined Forces and Commander of the United States Forces Korea, will soon be retiring after a long and distinguished career.

General LaPorte was born in Providence, Rhode Island, and graduated from the University of Rhode Island. He completed the Armor Officer Advanced Course in 1975 and he earned a Master's Degree in Administration from the University of California.

After General LaPorte was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of Armor, he served as a Platoon Leader and Motor Officer in Alpha Company, 3d Battalion, 64th Armor. In 1971, he served as a Platoon Commander and Company Executive Officer in the 283d Aeriel Weapons Company in the Republic of Vietnam. He commanded the 3d Battalion, 64th Armor, 3d Infantry Division in Schweinfur, Germany, and following the Army War College, he served as the G3, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas. In October 1990, he deployed with the division to Southwest Asia and was Chief of Staff during Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM. In 1997, he assumed the duties of Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Operation and Plans, Headquarters, Department of the Army, Washington, DC. Prior to assuming his current position, General LaPorte served as Deputy Commanding General/Chief of Staff, U.S. Army Forces Command.

General LaPorte has earned numerous decorations and badges for his outstanding service in the military. These decorations and badges include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit (three oak leaf clusters), the Distinguished Flying Cross, a Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (two oak leaf clusters), an Air Medal ("V" device), an Army Commendation Medal ("V" device), a Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry (with Palm), a Kuwait Liberation Medal, an Army Aviator Badge, a Parachutist Badge, and a Ranger Tab.

Mr. Speaker, I know the Members of the House will join me in paying tribute to General Leon J. LaPorte for his exceptional service to the United States and will wish him all the best in the days ahead.

HONORING ROSENDO CARRANCO

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rosendo Carranco, an upstanding citizen of Laredo, Texas, who was recently awarded the Spirit of Jerusalem Award by the state of Israel.

It is a great honor for me to enter into the RECORD the accomplishments of Mr. Carranco in tribute to his dedication to the business community, and numerous charitable works that have benefited the citizens of Laredo. After he graduated from Texas A&M University in 1977, he returned to Laredo to start his own accounting firm, Carranco & Lawson, where his wife, Mary, serves as partner. In addition to his work as an accountant, Mr. Carranco works as a real estate developer whose work includes the Cielito Lindo subdivision, and he is also involved in various business ventures that include insurance, oil, and gas. He and his wife, Mary are the proud parents of three children, Andrew, Kathryn, and Robert.

Mr. Carranco is well known in Laredo for his gregarious and outgoing demeanor as well as numerous contributions to community service. He is a beloved coach in the local youth basketball, football, and baseball teams as well as a highly active participant in the Boys and Girls Club, Young President's Organization, United Way, Junior Achievement, Laredo A&M Club, and Daybreak Rotary organizations. His exemplary compassion and his deep commitment to his faith make him a fine role model for young people in Laredo, Texas.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to honor Rosendo Carranco, recipient of the Spirit of Jerusalem Award by the state of Israel.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ANDREA MARIE PEREA

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Andrea Marie Perea, who is a two-time State Champion in the sport of Gymnastics.

At 12 years old, Andrea has achieved more in the sport of gymnastics than many athletes will accomplish in a lifetime. In the 2005 Nevada State Championships in Reno, Nevada, Andrea scored first place in 4 of the 5 events that she competed in, including uneven bars, balance beam, floor exercise, and best all around performance, leading her to win her first Nevada State Championship. She became a two-time title holder at the 2006 Nevada State Championships in Las Vegas, Nevada, where she took home first place on the vault, balance beam, and again received the title of best all around.

Andrea's athleticism does not stop with gymnastics. She takes ballet and belly dance lessons, and participates in a Fiesta Flamenca dance troupe. In addition to her athletic achievements, Andrea gives back to the Las Vegas community by volunteering with Salud en Accion, a program that provides outreach

to the Hispanic community on Medicare, Medicaid, and basic health services. Furthermore, Andrea acts as an altar server for the Guardian Angel Cathedral Catholic Church in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Andrea is committed to maintaining her public service, and would like to get more involved with events in her local Las Vegas community. A straight "A" student, she intends to maintain her grades while continuing to practice dance and violin in her spare time. She has set her sights on participating in the 2012 Olympic Games in London, and then taking her gold medal to West Point where she will study medicine, and eventually become a surgeon. With more young women like Andrea Marie Perea, who strive to meet their goals with great ambition and pride, I see a bright future for America.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to honor Andrea Marie Perea and her outstanding accomplishments. I wish her the best in her gymnastics career, as well as with all of her future endeavors.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT PENSION CONFEREES

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, we need common sense, bipartisan legislation to protect pension benefits and to honor the promise of pensions.

I rise to support this motion to ensure the Senate provisions are included in the final Pension bill—especially the provision that ensures airlines like American, Continental, Delta, and Northwest are not forced to terminate pension plans. The Senate provision would provide the critical time needed to fund pension plans promised to employees.

No such provision exists in the House bill. Airlines were promised, in exchange for their support of the House Pension bill, that House leadership would work with them in conference to obtain the relief they wanted—though Republican leadership declined to include their provisions in the House bill. The Bush administration opposes the airline provisions.

We must help airlines avoid the termination of their pension plans. Timing is of the essence. Two of the airlines that would benefit from this provision are currently in bankruptcy and could terminate their pension plans. And, two others could take advantage of this relief.

In September 2005, Northwest Airlines filed for bankruptcy after losing more than \$4 billion since 2001. Northwest's pension plans are underfunded by \$3.8 billion. Without airline relief provisions, Northwest would be required to pay \$3.3 billion in pension funding obligations by 2007 and would likely need to abandon and turn over its pension plans to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation. In January 2006, the pilots union agreed with Northwest to freeze the pilot pension plan and replace it with a defined contribution plan. I support the decision made by Northwest and their pilots.

Labor, employees, and airline management strongly support an airlines provision in the Pension bill.

Keep the airlines flying and employees working. Support this motion.

RECOGNIZING GREATER PITTSBURGH CHAPTER OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN BUSINESS OWNERS

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO).

The National Association of Women Business Owners was established in Washington, DC in 1975. NAWBO is the only dues-based national organization that represents all women business owners in all industries. It's the voice of the American business woman. 10.1 million women-owned businesses are represented nationwide. Today there are over 80 chapters throughout the United States. The Pittsburgh Chapter of NAWBO was established in 1977 and since then has had the privilege of having two its members serve as national presidents. In 2000, Greater Pittsburgh Chapter of NAWBO was named the fastest growing Chapter in United States.

This year the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter of NAWBO has many Make the Connection Award Honorees. The honorees are: Pamela Abdalla of The Salvation Army Family Crisis Center; Bonnie Anton of the American Heart Association; Dr. Joseph Bairn of The Bradley Center; Aggie Brose of the Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group; Mary Jean Byrnes of Carlow University, Community Education; Beth Caldwell of the Incredible Mom Award; Bonnie DiCarlo of Celebrate and Share; JoAnn Forrester of Celebrate and Share; Shamina Frank of the Antioch Baptist Church; Suzanne Froehlich of the Power Lunch; Bonnie Hassan of A Place for Reiki; Dorothy M. Horvath of ACHIEVA; Tracy Lee Janov of the McKeesport Weed and Seed Program; Marleen Kasbee of the North Hills Community Outreach; Lillian T. King of the St. Cyril of Alexandria Church; Carol MacPhail of the United Way of Allegheny County; Maryann Magra of the Senator John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center; Steve Miklas of Calliope, the Pittsburgh Folk Music Society; Susan Miller of WBN North Points North Chapter; Grace Moffett of POWER; Shaela Montague-Phillips of the Meeting of the Minds Publications; Anne Mullaney of Neighbors in the Strip; Martha Murdock of Care Break at Watson Institute; Susanne Parks of ACHIEVA-POWER; Rae Reynolds of UMOJA African Arts Company; Linda Rinchiuso of The Lighthouse; Phyllis Rinsma of Exceptional Friends; Beth Rom of ABOARD—Advisory Board on Autism: Related Services; Barbara Sallo of PowerLink; Sydney Schwartz-Hardiman of WBN North Points North Chapter; Steve Smith of Elliot West End Athletic Association; Mary Sutphen of POWER; Sandra Talley of Morningside Church of God in Christ; Lisa Vandemia of Care Break at Watson Institute; and Andrea M. Williams of the Children's Sickle Cell Foundation.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the honorees of the Make a Connection Award. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania