

the community enjoys the services of Mr. Golub. Mr. Speaker, please join me as I recognize the significant life accomplishments of Mr. Lewis Golub and wish him all the best in his bright future. We can all take a chapter from his life and benefit from his example. My Congressional District is better served through the commitment to excellence Mr. Golub demonstrates and our communities are fortunate to call him a neighbor and friend.

# THE VOLUME THAT'S MAKING A LOUD NOISE: PEOPLE FLOCK TO HEAR ABOUT 'COVENANT'

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 26, 2006*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Tavis Smiley for his publication of a remarkable analysis of the status of Black America, "The Covenant With Black America". Smiley, an instrumental American author, political commentator, and radio talk show host has contributed a great deal to the discussion on the goals of African Americans from fair minimum wage increases to equal and accessible healthcare. Smiley is determined to bring the plight of Blacks to the forefront of the national agenda by convincing African American leaders to embrace it. He introduced the covenant at a leadership conference in Atlanta and it appears to be succeeding in taking the covenant to other cities.

His Covenant with Black America is now number one on the Washington Post best seller list and number two on the New York Times best seller list, an indication of a significant audience for its proposals which is being augmented by the taking of the proposals to audiences in the Black community such as the Shiloh Baptist Church in downtown Washington.

The covenant includes pieces from an array of notable contemporary African Americans including former U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher; Marian Wright Edelman, Angela Glover Blackwell, and Cornel West. The book has African Americans all across the country gathering and discussing Black America as was done with Smiley's presentation at Shiloh Baptist Church in downtown Washington on Thursday, April 7, 2006. Smiley has made many think about their status as he has asked the very pertinent question, "Can we go from moment to momentum to movement?"

Also notable about "The Covenant" is that it is No. 1 on the Washington Post's paperback nonfiction bestseller list. This alone indicates that there are many who are interested in engaging in the discussion of the future of Black America. More than 200,000 copies have been sold since it was published less than two months ago.

I enter into the RECORD an article from the Washington Post entitled "The Volume That's Making a Loud Noise" for the acknowledgment and support of a book with such a profound and straightforward method for tackling the vital issues within the Black community. Now is the time for revitalization in those communities across this nation and the Black community must rise to the occasion.

[From The Washington Post, Apr. 7, 2006]  
THE VOLUME THAT'S MAKING A LOUD NOISE: PEOPLE  
FLOCK TO HEAR ABOUT 'COVENANT'

(By Linton Weeks)

When a book becomes a collection of people, not just pages, we sit up and pay attention.

"The Covenant With Black America," a volume of essays pulled together by omnimedia personality Tavis Smiley, may be doing just that. At No. 1 on The Washington Post's paperback nonfiction bestseller list, "Covenant" is the book of the moment. It's been on the list for four weeks. And it is No. 2 on the upcoming New York Times paperback nonfiction list.

All across the country, many black Americans are gathering, mostly in churches, to hear Smiley spread his gospel of response and responsibility and to buy a bunch of books. The publisher, Third World Press, reports that more than 200,000 copies have sold—at \$12 apiece—since "Covenant" was published less than two months ago.

In downtown Washington last night, Smiley's rousing presentation from the lectern of Shiloh Baptist Church is greeted with scores of amens and several standing ovations. Brandishing a copy, he says, "Make black America better, you make all America better."

Funny and self-effacing, Smiley asks the thousand or so people in the pews, "Can we go from moment to momentum to movement?"

The volume could also be titled "The Purpose Driven Community."

"Covenant" is a collection of pieces by notable contemporary African Americans, including former U.S. surgeon general David Satcher; Marian Wright Edelman, founder of the Children's Defense Fund; Angela Glover Blackwell, founder of the think tank PolicyLink; and Cornel West, who teaches religion at Princeton University.

The 250-plus-page book is divided into 10 core chapters, each plumbing a single subject, such as the right to health care, the unequal justice system or the racial digital divide. Arguments are buttressed with statistics and calls to personal and political action. For example, in the chapter on accessing economic prosperity, the book encourages elected officials to "increase the minimum wage to a living wage" and urges individuals to "open and maintain a savings account, no matter what your family's income is."

Smiley, who has written a handful of books and is a regular on public television, is proud that "Covenant" has sold mostly through the traditional African American grapevines of church meetings, talk radio and word of mouth. And that he has bypassed the Great American Buzzmaking Machine.

"We haven't been on 'Oprah!'" he shouts to the crowd. "We haven't been on the 'Today' show! And we haven't been on NPR! That's all black folks," he says about the book's phenomenal rise on the bestseller lists. "Black folks did this."

He uses the success of his book to illustrate the economic and political might of the African American community. He also points out that he chose Third World Press in Chicago, an influential African American publishing house founded in 1967, to publish his book.

"It's selling so fast we can't keep up with demand," says Bennett J. Johnson, vice president of Third World.

Johnson says one of his friends describes the book as "an oasis in the desert" because it is the rare volume that "allows black Americans to view their own interests in an organized fashion, and it provides white America with an articulated version of what black America wants."

This will be "a wedge book," Johnson predicts, that will make book buyers and the publishing industry look at black publishers and writers in a different light.

"Covenant," he adds, "is not a bible. It's not 100 percent right on each issue. But it starts a dialogue."

The book does touch a certain chord with some people. Pamela Johnson, 38, of Upper Marlboro, for instance, who is sitting near an aisle in the church. She heard Smiley talking about his ideas on the Tom Joyner morning radio show. African Americans have to "understand what we have to do to improve our situations," Johnson says. An industrial engineer and a mathematics professor at Strayer University, she is especially interested in the book's emphasis on establishing an equitable system of public education.

Edelman, who is onstage with Smiley, wrote the book's statement of purpose. "Covenant," she writes, "calls on parents, educators, preachers, social service providers, community leaders, and policy-makers to act now and create a brighter future for our children."

The book grew out of several annual State of the Black Union symposiums that Smiley conducted. Contributor Blackwell explains from her home in California that Smiley wanted to take the conversations from those confabs "and harness the intellectual power and the energy."

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF  
WOMEN'S RIGHTS ACTIVIST  
BETTY FRIEDAN

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 26, 2006*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Betty Friedan, devoted social activist and writer, whose best-seller served to greatly benefit the women's movement. Ms. Friedan was a beloved sister, mother, grandmother, friend and mentor to many, whose activism, talent, and dedication changed the lives of women and sparked one of America's greatest social movements.

After graduating summa cum laude from Smith College in 1942, Ms. Friedan studied psychology for a year at the University of California at Berkeley. Frustrated with inequality in the workplace and women's accepted role as wife and mother, Ms. Friedan directed her passion and energy into her 1963 bestseller "The Feminine Mystique." Her commanding voice and passionate words opened the minds of women and led to substantial positive changes to define their status.

In 1966, Ms. Friedan co-founded the U.S. National Organization for Women, and became its first president. Her strong influence, beliefs, and wisdom laid the foundation for the organization that has grown exponentially to the size it is today. In addition to her vital work with NOW, she was essential in advancing women's rights to privacy, choice, and political participation. In 1979 she led an effort which resulted in women gaining half the delegate strength at the Democratic Party's nominating convention.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues please join me in honor and remembrance of Betty Friedan, whose enthusiasm, devotion, and ability to affect the world with her writing, has served to improve the status and lives of women everywhere. I extend my deepest condolences to

her family members and many friends. Betty Friedan's unwavering commitment to change and equality has served to make a difference within the lives of countless individuals, and on history itself. Betty Friedan's legacy of service and revolution will be honored and remembered for all time.

RETIREMENT OF SERGEANT  
MAJOR MICHAEL DUDLEY, USA

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 26, 2006*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I hope the House will join me today to pay tribute to an exceptional patriot and Non-Commissioned Officer in the United States Army, Sergeant Major Michael Roy Dudley, upon his retirement from active military service.

Sergeant Major Dudley's remarkable career spans over 31 years in the United States Army culminating with his appointment to Principal Announcer of The United States Army Band, "Pershing's Own" and Non-commissioned Officer-in-Charge of the United States Army Chorale.

He was also a producer, performer and announcer for numerous inaugural events for Presidents Carter, Reagan, G.H.W. Bush and Clinton. He was the announcer for the nationally televised September 11 Pentagon Memorial Services on September 11, 2002; internment of the Unknown Soldier from Viet Nam at Arlington National Cemetery; narrative soloist with the Boston Pops Orchestra and the Penn Woods Festival Orchestra at Penn State University for the 2000 National Governors' Conference performing Aaron Copland's "A Lincoln Portrait."

He has been the featured announcer and soloist numerous times for The United States Army Band's concerts at Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall in New York City from 1993 to the present. Sergeant Major Dudley's talent and professionalism has been instrumental in the flawless performance of these international events.

Other significant performances by Sergeant Major Dudley include: The White House performance for the signing of the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel; featured vocal soloist for Gerald Ford and Friends Gala in Vail, Colorado; White House State Dinners and Christmas receptions (1975-present); numerous performances for the Kennedy Center Honors Program and the July 4, 1976 Bicentennial Concert of the United States with Johnny Cash on the grounds of the Washington Monument.

Sergeant Major Dudley has truly represented The United States Army and The United States of America in an exemplary manner which was quintessential to the overwhelming success of these very important events in the history of our nation. This soldier is the recipient of the United States Armed Forces Legion of Merit award for exceptionally meritorious conduct in his performance of outstanding service to this country.

He has established a renowned reputation both nationally and globally as a musical ambassador of goodwill. I ask my colleagues to join me today to thank Sergeant Major Dudley, his wife, Mary Lou, and his entire family for

the commitment, sacrifice, and contribution that they have made throughout his honorable military career.

IN MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE  
JOHN J. POLLARD

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 26, 2006*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of Representatives of the passing of my friend, the Honorable John J. Pollard of Lexington, Missouri. He was 96.

Judge Pollard was born on November 14, 1909, in Lexington, Missouri. After he graduated from Lexington High School in 1928, Judge Pollard worked various odd jobs. Judge Pollard was offered a special commission as deputy constable in 1931 and began, like his father before him, a lifelong career in law enforcement. In 1934, he was appointed deputy sheriff, designated the court bailiff, and moonlighted as a city fireman.

Judge Pollard married Genevieve Bray on January 11, 1936. That same year, Judge Pollard first campaigned for public office and was elected Constable. Judge Pollard was elected Constable twice more; in 1938 and again in 1940. He also continued as deputy sheriff until 1940.

In the fall of 1940, a conversation with Senator Harry S. Truman from Independence, Missouri, led to a position as one of the very first members of a security force being established at the new Lake City Ordinance Plant. Shortly after Judge Pollard was hired as a dispatcher and firearms inspector, war was declared. During World War II, the ammunition plant would reach a high of 23,000 employees, 600 of whom were on the security force. After World War II officially ended on September 2, 1945, Judge Pollard received a special "Certificate of Meritorious Conduct" from the United States Army, recognizing his service to the war effort.

Judge Pollard was the only security man kept on staff after the Lake City Ordinance Plant closed a month after the war. When the plant reopened in 1949, Judge Pollard was made Chief of Security. When the Korean Conflict began in 1950, the plant once again aided in the war effort and Judge Pollard, as head of security, held the military rank equivalent of Colonel. Before retiring in 1974, Judge Pollard attended a 40-hour course in shooting at the FBI Academy; completed the MP School of the Army at Fort Gordon, Georgia; and graduated from the U.S. Army Intelligence School. He also took courses in industrial security management, effective speaking, human relations, communications, and job relations.

In 1978, Judge Pollard was elected to the office of Municipal Judge of Lexington. When the legal qualifications to hold the office changed a year later, he was in the first group of judges to take the Supreme Court's mandatory test for Municipal Judges. His background in law enforcement served him well and he easily passed the test. He was held in high esteem by the local lawyers and was invited to become an ex-officio member of the Lafayette County Bar, a high honor for a non-lawyer. Judge Pollard resigned from office on May 30,

1989, having served for eleven years and one month.

Mr. Speaker, Judge John J. Pollard was more than a civil servant, he was a true friend. He is survived by his son Jack Pollard; Jack's wife Beth; one brother, Dale Pollard; and two grandchildren. He will be missed and I know the members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his loved ones.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN J. SANVIDGE

**HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 26, 2006*

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor and pay tribute to the late John J. Sanvidge, a dedicated and loyal public servant, and one of my outstanding constituents from the 20th District of New York. His professional and personal achievements are numerous and varied, and have positively shaped the lives of many in my District.

Throughout his life John worked to protect the people of his community and nation. He courageously defended our country in the European Theatre of World War II, while serving in the U.S. Navy. Locally, he was an advocate for the citizens of the 20th District through his service as Commissioner of Public Safety for the city of Troy, and while serving as Director of Civil Defense for Rensselaer County. John also worked to help those less fortunate. For over 50 years, the John J. Sanvidge Funeral Home, Inc., founded by John, has helped countless citizens of Rensselaer, Albany, and Saratoga counties cope with some of the most difficult times in their life. He served as chairman of the Rensselaer County Muscular Dystrophy Association Drive and was influential in the first Jerry Lewis Telethon in New York City. John was an active member of his community as a member of the CSEA, Veteran of Foreign Affairs Post 8764, the Tibbits Cadets of Troy and the American Legion.

It is my privilege to honor such a dedicated member of my district. The selfless work of individuals like John Sanvidge constitutes the foundation of good citizenship and embodies true American values. The residents of my district have benefited from the efforts and achievements of John J. Sanvidge. I thank him for his contribution to our community and our Nation.

REVEREND AL'S NEW FLOCK—  
SHARPTON NURTURES UP-AND-  
COMING ACTIVISTS

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 26, 2006*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the Reverend Al Sharpton for his continued encouragement of black youths in America to rise up and join the struggle against poverty, low performing schools, corruption and other ills that plague many of our inner cities across this nation. The Reverend believes that the time is now for new blood