

as it grew in prestige and national recognition. U.S. News & World Report has ranked Mercer as one of the leading institutions in the South for 14 consecutive years. The Princeton Review named Mercer among "The Best in North America," and USA Today ranked Mercer among the Top 10 in three categories for its National Academic Achievement Awards for student-athletes.

Mr. Speaker, Kirby Godsey's strong, perceptive, caring, steady and engaging leadership has been critical to Mercer's success. Without him and his commitment to Mercer, I believe Mercer would not be the University it is today. But Mr. Speaker, Kirby Godsey's beneficial influence did not end at Mercer's borders. He has been a remarkable force for progress in Macon and Middle Georgia. The lives and projects he touched for the better would be too numerous to mention even if I were capable of cataloging them all. Let just a few examples suffice. Under Kirby's leadership, Mercer partnered with the City of Macon and others to successfully revitalize and transform the neighborhoods surrounding Mercer's campus. Indeed, Kirby Godsey's Mercer became a major force for rejuvenating Macon's central business district. And Mercer's School of Medicine and its School of Engineering were no more than dreams before Kirby Godsey's tenure. Now Mercer-trained physicians provide care in underserved rural areas while Mercer engineers serve our nation at Warner Robins Air Logistics Center.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting that the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD forever include this brief acknowledgement of the accomplishments of Kirby Godsey as President of Mercer University. He will continue to bless those around him with his uncanny wisdom and grace. Few leave such enduringly positive legacies.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DONALD
ROBB

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Donald L. Robb, Jr. retired United States Air Force Major, who passed away on January 11, 2006 in Boulder City, Nevada.

Donald was born in Ohio and grew up in Ohio and Florida. After a few years of college, He enlisted in the Air Force after he felt the call of duty for his country. During his time in the military, Donald was stationed at bases in South Carolina, Japan, California, South Korea and Nevada. As Director of Administration for Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, he supervised over 100 personnel. He was the first such director to receive a "1" rating from the Inspector General team. For a total of twenty years Donald served his country as a navigator and an administration officer. He received many awards for his dedicated and outstanding military service, including; the Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, the Combat Ready Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon with four Oak Leaf Clusters, the Vietnam Service Medal with six Oak Leaf Clusters, the Republic Vietnam

Campaign Medal and Republic Vietnam Gallant Cross.

Donald is survived by his children, Donald L. Robb, III, David A. Robb, Daniel L. Robb and Diana L. Robb, and his wife, Marcia Robb.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MR.
WILLIAM B. WELLING

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2006

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of an extraordinary individual who spent his life serving his country and fellow man. On April 15, 2006, Mr. William B. Welling passed away at the age of 82. A man of great sincerity, integrity, humility, courtesy, wisdom and charity, Mr. Welling was a trusted friend and mentor to many and will be sorely missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

A man of many hats, Bill was a historian, photographer, editor, writer, author and WWII Veteran. His love of knowledge coupled with his strong work ethic helped him to find success in all of his endeavors.

After honorably serving his country in WWII, Bill returned to the U.S. and earned a degree from Yale University. Upon graduating, he put his many talents to work. His extensive career included serving as a reporter/aviation editor for the Baltimore Evening Sun, account executive for a New York advertising agency, and chief of technical publicity for the Baltimore Division of the Martin Company. He also edited a quarterly for the North American employees of the Danish owned Maersk line and regularly contributed articles to trade and professional media.

Aside from his business career, Bill was recognized as a photo historian both in the U.S. and overseas. For five years he edited Photographica for the American Photographic Historical Society. This followed the publication of his Collector's Guide to Nineteenth Century Photographs, which was the first book for the photography collecting market published in the U.S. He is also the author of Photography in America, The Formative Years 1839-1900 and East Side Story which was privately published on behalf of the Boys Brotherhood Republic of New York.

His strong belief that he had an obligation to help the youth of his community drove Bill to spend many years working with the Boys Brotherhood Republic, a youth recreation center on the Lower East Side. The organization teaches inner city youth the principles of self government and the value of education as a means to transcend the perils of negative youth activity. The 6 to 18 year old citizens of the Boys Brotherhood Republic (BBR) elect their own mayor and city council, and administer their own police and court systems. Under Bill's guidance these young men became adults, learning how to solve everyday problems as responsible committed citizens.

Mr. Speaker, Bill's greatest assets in life were his intellect and sense of humor. His exceptional ability to pass on knowledge with constant wit and charm always made him the "life of the party", leaving all whom he encountered feeling not only joyful but more intelligent as well.

There is an old saying: "If you have knowledge, let others light their candles in it." The book on the life William B. Welling was completed on April 15, 2006. He can no longer offer advice, make us laugh, or personally pass on his vast wisdom to younger generations; however, his indomitable spirit lives on through the countless candles he helped others to light. Surely that is the mark of a meaningful life.

For unyielding service to his country, family, friends and community and for being an inspiration to us all, I ask my colleagues to join me in bidding a final farewell to a great American, Mr. William B. Welling.

STATEMENT ON H.R. 5020

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2006

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I opposed the Renzi amendment because, while we all oppose leaks in our intelligence community, we have learned more about the illegal wiretapping program, the use of torture and extraordinary rendition, and the situation in Iraq from leaks to media outlets than we have from the administration. While we should do our best to prevent intelligence leaks, we must also ensure that we aren't being complicit in the cover-up of illegal activities or the manipulation of intelligence.

I also voted against final passage of the Intelligence Authorization bill because, while it is a fine bill, it represents a missed opportunity. Democrats have tried to address the series of intelligence scandals, yet were prevented from doing so by continued abuses of the legislative process by the Republican majority.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day. I join the Jewish people in the State of Israel, the United States, and across the globe in remembering and honoring the 6 million Jews who were brutally murdered by the Nazi regime during the Holocaust.

April 25, 2006 is a day for all people to reflect upon that most horrific period of history. The Holocaust demonstrated that even a supposedly cultured society could tolerate the most senseless atrocities. We must keep in mind that the Nazi genocide against the Jews was not perpetrated solely by a lone crazed individual. It was the carefully considered plan, years in the works, of a group of genocidal fanatics, which won the support of an entire nation. The Holocaust reflected the worst potential inherent in human nature for hatred of an entire religion simply for existing.

I am privileged to represent diverse cultures in Brooklyn. In my district lives a large but dwindling population of Holocaust survivors. Many of these survivors rebuilt their lives with nothing more than the shirt on their back. Today, based on the strong foundations of

those Holocaust survivors, sits the beautiful Jewish communities in my district, including Williamsburg, Midwood and Canarsie. These communities represent the best of Jewish life and have successfully resurrected the Jewish community's wonderful religious heritage from the ashes of the Holocaust. Their synagogues, yeshivas, kollels, and social service organizations, which serve all people of all backgrounds, would make their ancestors proud.

On this day, we celebrate their remarkable achievements in bringing up a generation of Jews who have learned from their parents' resoluteness the importance of preserving as much of their tradition as they possibly can. We acknowledge their commitment in the face of unspeakable adversity and their sacrifices so that another generation might carry on their values.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the efforts of organizations in my district that have taken extraordinary steps in servicing and caring for the Holocaust survivor population: The Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty; The United Jewish Organizations of Williamsburg; The Council of Jewish Organizations of Flatbush; The Jewish Community Council of Canarsie; The Conference of Jewish Material Claims Against Germany; Peasch Tikvah and all the Bikkur Cholim organizations. Their selfless work for Holocaust survivors continues to serve as an inspiration to me and it is a great honor to recognize their hard work.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues here today in remembering the Holocaust. Regrettably, there are still Holocaust deniers today and it is imperative that we never forget and continue to learn from this unforgettable chapter of history.

YOM HASHOAH

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2006

Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Martyrs and Heroes Remembrance Day.

On this day of remembrance, we mourn—as a community, as a nation, and as a world—the 6 million Jews who lost their lives during one of the darkest periods of our history. We pray that those still pained and anguished by the unimaginable suffering may find peace and comfort. And we reflect on what can happen when the world fails to confront evil, hatred, and bigotry.

Yom Hashoah is also a time to remember the individual acts of martyrdom and heroism committed during the Holocaust. We recall those brave Jewish martyrs in the Warsaw ghetto armed only with pistols and Molotov cocktails who repulsed the sophisticated weaponry of the Nazis for one month. We recall those righteous gentiles who risked their lives to shelter and protect Jews. And, we recall those who were forced to leave their homeland in search of new lives in unfamiliar lands.

My mother, Renee Perl, was one of the many who had to flee their homeland. Forced to start anew at the mere age of 14, she left Austria—alone—spending time in Holland and England before arriving in Philadelphia at 16.

Once arriving at the shores of America, my mother—like so many Jews—was hesitant to tell her story—hoping that by trying to forget about the war she could move on. But, little by little, we came to know her story and the enduring pain it caused for her and so many others.

As we move further and further away from this period of history, those who witnessed such acts and those of us—who have heard first-hand accounts become fewer. It is our duty to pass their stories along so that future generations can reflect on their courage, valor, and heroism. And, it is our obligation to tell their stories so all of us Jews and non-Jews—can heed the lessons of the Holocaust.

Mr. Speaker, I am tremendously grateful for being able to share my family's experience. I know my mother would be proud to know that we are not only paying tribute to those who suffered tremendous pain and hardship, but recalling the Jewish people's great spirit to survive, our continued faith in God, and our unwavering belief in freedom and democracy.

HOLOCAUST MARTYRS AND HEROES REMEMBRANCE DAY

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2006

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Martyrs and Heroes Remembrance Day. We pause as a Nation on this day to remember the 6 million Jews who perished under Nazi oppression.

Between 1938 and 1945, the Nazi government systematically attempted to annihilate the entire Jewish population simply because of its religion, culture, and history. Countless families were torn apart, entire communities decimated.

On Yom Hashoah, we not only mourn for those who lost their lives, we mourn for one of humanity's darkest times. And we reflect on what hatred, ignorance, indifference and prejudice can do to mankind when allowed to breed unchecked.

Yom Hashoah also marks the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising of 1943. It is a time to reflect on the bravery of those who fought for justice, freedom and for survival in the face of torture and oppression.

It is fitting then, that this year's Yom Hashoah theme is "Legacies of Justice," honoring the Holocaust survivors who stood as witnesses during the Nuremberg Trials.

Their legacy calls on us to never forget the atrocities that occurred and to never again turn our backs on human suffering, regardless of where it occurs in the world. They call on us to stand for freedom—not only for ourselves but also for all humanity—to fight for those too weak to defend themselves, and to stand vigilant against apathy and hatred.

Today as we commemorate our Jewish martyrs and heroes at the National Rotunda, let us remember our duty to speak out against suffering and injustice.

We best honor the 6 million who perished at the hands of hatred by fighting against anti-Semitism, racism, sexism, and other forms of discrimination that seek to divide us.

And we must vow to never allow such tragedies to happen again. For our sake, for our children's sake, and for the sake of humanity.

TRIBUTE TO MR. REGINALD FOOTMAN

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2006

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to a young man who continues to have a positive impact on the young people of my community through his heart-filled and uplifting music about his home borough. Mr. Reginald Footman, also known as Barshem, is a recording artist from the Bronx who hopes to steer hip hop back to its roots, providing inspiring messages over hard-hitting beats.

Barshem's love of languages has helped him to develop as a lyricist and become the skillful emcee he is today. He began by writing poetry and small rhymes, but it was not until his cousin made his first rap record, that Barshem saw an opportunity for a career. At the young age of 11, he started his own group: "Energy Posse" which evolved into another group named "Alpha Omega." In the mid 1990's, the group became widely known and performed with other notable artists such as Jay Z, Lil Kim, Big Pun, and Fat Joe.

In the late 90's, Barshem made his acting debut in the movie *Above the Rim*, working as a stand in for the late Tupac Shakur. He would later accept roles on the television show *Third Watch* and a short appearance with Academy Award winner Denzel Washington in *The Manchurian Candidate*, but his love for hip hop kept him focused on his music. He has written title tracks for movies such as: *Rock the Paint*, *Marci X*, *Bull's Night Out* and *Full Clip*.

After many years of acting and rapping, Barshem met Allen Boxer, an investment banker with whom he partnered to create B&B Records, LLC. And now, one year after his first song was recorded, Barshem & B&B Records, LLC are set to release Barshem's debut album: *Ghetto-nometry* which includes a hit single dedicated to the borough of the Bronx.

Throughout his career, record executives have pushed Barshem to produce violent and misogynistic music; however, he has consistently stood his ground and refused to compromise his belief that music should empower, not destroy. Fortunately, his hard work has finally paid off and he is set to release an album that he can say he did his way.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent the district that gave birth to hip hop and it is my hope that today's hip hop artists will remember the spirit of self-empowerment that once characterized this music genre and realize the tremendous positive influence they can have throughout the world.

I applaud Barshem for staying true to these principles and never forgetting his roots in the Bronx.

COMMEMORATION OF HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Holocaust Remembrance Day, Yom