

of the Imperial Court, Daughters of Isis, Prince Hall Affiliated.

On Saturday, May 13, 2006 this great leader will be honored at the Signature Grand Ballroom in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida by friends and members of the organization to mark the assumption of her new responsibilities. She came up through the ranks of this 25,000-member charitable organization since she joined it in 1970. It has now grown to 226 Shrine Temples and 200 Courts of the Daughters of Isis, who serve as its women's auxiliary. Various temples and courts abound throughout the continental United States, Canada, Germany, Italy, England, Spain, Japan, Korea, Guam, Thailand, Panama and the Bahamas.

The group that Dr. Albury will spearhead is both a charitable and social organization whose members have long been dedicated to fostering civic, economic and educational development. Formally organized on August 24, 1910, the Court's Daughters of Isis stresses the development of leaders while encouraging health awareness among youth and adults and the establishment of a network of services for the disabled and senior citizens. The group also recognizes and celebrates the historic achievements of African-American women who have exerted great influence and served as exemplary models for generations of leaders in communities throughout the world. One of its better-known projects targets teenage mothers, high school and college students, who participate in ongoing activities for educational opportunities and career planning.

While its programs are focused on education and academic scholarships, the Imperial Court also ensures health education and mentoring for the leaders of tomorrow through the donation of book bags and school supplies for adopted schools and future members of the Daughters of Isis. Its many members have become permanent fixtures in volunteering their time and effort during the annual College Fund/United Negro College Fund Scholarship Campaigns, Health and Medical Research, American Cancer Society, Mental Retardation, the NAACP and other nationwide efforts benefiting various communities. Consistent with its philosophy of stewardship, this organization has supported many underprivileged people throughout the world.

Dr. Albury served for almost 28 years both as an appointed and elected national officer. She is truly a social-service pioneer and leader, for she has buttressed a rejuvenation of the Imperial Court's Daughters of Isis. For her indefatigable work, she has been cited in the Book of Life of the Black Archives Foundation and in the "Who's Who in the South and Southwest, as well as in the World." Accolades from professional, civic, religious and governmental agencies are both numerous, and well-deserved.

With Dr. Charlie Powell Albury's formal inauguration this Saturday, I join her countless admirers, and colleagues and members of her Imperial Court's Daughters of Isis, in celebrating this historic event. I commend her courageous vision and pragmatic approach to helping others, for she and the organization she leads evokes in simple but noble terms our spirit of hope and optimism in the great American spirit.

TRIBUTE TO THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FLINT OLYMPIAN GAMES

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Flint Olympian Games as it celebrates 50 years of promoting physical fitness and sportsmanship. Events commemorating this anniversary will be held throughout the summer in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

Conceived 50 years ago as a finale to the summer athletic program for Flint students, the Games have grown into a community wide experience. Frank Manley and the Flint School District Community Education Directors held the first planning meeting to organize the Games in 1956. The following year 1500 students participated in 6 sports. Today the Games involve 11,000 contestants active in 22 sports. Encompassing the entire family the Games have become a tradition among generations of Flint residents.

The opening ceremonies will be held on July 11 at Flint Central High School followed by a fitness walk and field day. The competitions will commence on that date and continue through July 22 at locations scattered throughout the community. An awards dinner will be held on July 27 to honor the participants and volunteers that have organized and sponsored this event. The amateur athletes will go on to participate in the 49th annual CANUSA Games. The CANUSA Games is a competition held between the residents of Flint and its sister city, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. The CANUSA Games foster goodwill between the citizens of both communities. Held on alternate years in each community, this year the CANUSA Games will take place in Flint on August 11, 12 and 13. For many of the participants this is their first exposure to persons from another country.

In addition to the actual sports competitions, the organizers have also planned a banquet to be held in June and a golf outing for July. The 50th Flint Olympian Games Celebration is a joint celebration sponsored by the Flint Community Schools, Citizens Blue Ribbon Committee, Greater Flint Olympian-CANUSA Association, City of Flint, the Ruth Mott Foundation and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation. The 50th Anniversary Games will be dedicated to the founders, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stewart Mott and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Manley.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in applauding the dedication of the many volunteers and contestants that come together each year in the atmosphere of camaraderie to promote the ideals of sportsmanship, physical well being and friendly competition. Their vision of families playing and working together to accomplish goals is to be commended.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO EARL AND MILDRED BURRIS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Earl and Mildred Burris for 70 years of marriage.

Earl and Mildred were married in 1936, and over the course of 70 years have raised a family that now includes two children, five grandchildren, and seven great grand children. Earl and Mildred's marriage dates back to the days when Franklin Roosevelt was in the White House, and the Berlin Olympic Games preceding Hitler's march through Europe. During their time together, they have witnessed such historic events as the landing on the moon and the construction and destruction of the Berlin Wall.

They raised their children in an age where they did things together as a family and instilled in them the values of service, community, and charity. In 1990, the couple moved to Boulder City, Nevada. Since that time Earl has been very active in water-related citizens committees, and both Earl and Mildred have been active in the church.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Earl and Mildred Burris for their 70 years of marriage. Their commitment to each other is admirable, and should serve as a lesson to us all. I commend and congratulate them, and wish them many more anniversaries together.

HONORING OFFICER SCOTT SEVERNS

HON. CHRIS CHOCOLA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

Mr. CHOCOLA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with a solemn heart to honor a hero. On Friday, April 21, 2006 Cpl. Scott Severns of the South Bend Police Department was shot during an attempted robbery. He succumbed to his wounds and passed early Sunday morning.

I have heard it said that at times like these, we should not focus on how someone dies, but on how they lived, but how Cpl. Severns died was a testament to how he lived. When two would-be robbers approached Cpl. Severns and a female companion, brandished a gun, and threatened them, Cpl. Severns instinctively stepped in between the gunman and his friend. Character like this cannot be taught through a police academy course, and it is not issued to every officer after their swearing in. This type of valor can only come from an individual with the heart of a hero.

We oftentimes do not take enough time to appreciate the sacrifice that law enforcement officers make every single day so that we can live in safety. It is easy for us to go about our daily lives without a thought about those that stand in between us and those that would try to hurt us.

Cpl. Severns's sacrifices from the moment he first put on his uniform, until his tragic, premature end, exemplify the best of American law enforcement.

Mr. Speaker, we would be remiss if we did not take this time to honor his service, remember his sacrifice, and mourn his passing.

TRIBUTE TO CINCO DE MAYO

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Mexican patriots who gave their lives to fight valiantly and successfully against an overwhelming French Army on May 5, 1862.

This is the week of Cinco de Mayo, a time to celebrate the courage and bravery of Mexican Americans and of all those who have fought for the freedoms of self-governance.

By celebrating Cinco de Mayo we honor the history of democracy in North America and remind ourselves that though our nation is made up of many diverse people and cultures, we all share a commitment to democratic freedom.

Last year this House passed Concurrent Resolution 44, a bill that recognizes the historical significance of the Mexican holiday of Cinco de Mayo.

Today, along with the other members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, I have called on the Senate Judiciary Committee to take up this resolution and pass it.

Many celebrate this day with festivals, singing, and dancing. But this day is more than a party. It is a celebration of cultural pride and the respect for the rights of all people. And the Senate should celebrate this day by passing H. Con. Res. 44.

HONORING SMURFIT-STONE'S SAFETY RECORD OF ONE MILLION WORK HOURS WITH NO INJURIES

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the Smurfit-Stone Containerboard Mill for achieving the admirable safety record of one million work hours without a recordable injury of any kind.

The Smurfit-Stone Containerboard Mill is an economically vital contributor to both the city of Brewton, and the state of Alabama. They are also the largest producer of containerboard products in North America with 18 mills. The mill has been in operation since 1957, and employs 583 people.

Smurfit Stone is the industry's leading integrated manufacturer of paper-based packaging products. However, it is only when a manufacturer provides a safe work environment for its employees that the company becomes the corporate neighbor that we all admire and respect. This is only the fourth time this milestone has been reached by paper mills in North America.

It is my sincere hope that the Smurfit-Stone Containerboard Mill will continue to set highly commendable examples for others in their industry, and I rise today to congratulate the employees and managers for the contributions

they have made toward the betterment of Alabama.

RECOGNIZING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BALTIMORE BASILICA

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 200th anniversary of America's first cathedral, the historic and beautiful Baltimore Basilica. Officially known as the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, this magnificent cathedral, built from 1806 to 1821, stands as a symbol of the beginning of the Catholic Church in America, and the religious freedoms embodied in our Constitution.

For over a century until the Revolutionary War, Catholics in America were a devoted but persecuted minority. After the Constitution was adopted, the Catholic Church embarked on the construction of a cathedral to celebrate their faith and their new-found right to worship freely.

Under the guidance of the future first archbishop of America, John Carroll, a hill above the Baltimore Inner Harbor was selected in 1806 as the site for the cathedral. After hearing about the proposed church, Benjamin Harry Latrobe volunteered his services as chief architect. Latrobe, the architect of the United States Capitol, is considered the father of American architecture and is responsible for what is now considered one of the world's most impressive buildings of the 19th century.

In addition to its structural magnificence, the cathedral has fulfilled its place as one of the most historically significant churches in the world. Two-thirds of all American Catholic dioceses can claim their roots at the Baltimore Basilica, and three Plenary Councils guiding the Catholic Church's role in the expanding United States were held within its walls. The Basilica continued to embrace progressive ideals throughout the years by, for example, including the first order of African-American nuns in its convent.

As we do today, the Baltimore Basilica has been honored on many occasions for its greatness. In 1937, Pope Pius XI raised the cathedral to the rank of a Minor Basilica. In 1972 it was declared a National Landmark and then in 1993 a National Shrine. The Basilica has also been greatly honored by the visits of His Holiness Pope John Paul II in 1995 and Mother Teresa of Calcutta in 1996.

Mr. Speaker, for the past two centuries, the Baltimore Basilica has stood as a beacon of hope and religious freedom. An architectural masterpiece built by two great visionaries, the Basilica continues to be "a shining citadel" of faith and hope for Maryland and the United States.

HONORING CHERYL NIX, SOUTH BEND SCHOOL CORPORATION TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. CHRIS CHOCOLA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

Mr. CHOCOLA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Cheryl Nix who was recently honored as the South Bend School Corporation's Teacher of the Year.

Cheryl is a math teacher at LaSalle Intermediate Academy in South Bend, Indiana and has been a teacher in South Bend for 29 years. She began her teaching career in 1976 at Monroe Primary School in South Bend teaching deaf and hearing-impaired children. She has been married 26 years and, in addition to teaching her students, she also has a full-time teaching job as a mother of two children.

Her 29 years of dedication and excellence in one of our Nation's most important professions deserves our honor and our respect. We don't spend enough time highlighting the great things that are happening every day in our schools.

It has been said many times, and will always be true, that our children are our future. Their education is the key to making sure that they have the proper tools to succeed when it is their turn to steer the ship of this Nation. As long as teachers such as Cheryl Nix are entrusted with that responsibility, I have confidence that our future as a Nation will be bright.

PATARA: THE ORIGINS OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY, 1800 YEARS AND 7000 MILES AWAY

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, the city of Patara in Turkey sports a fantastic beach that sprawls for more than 11 miles. It recently rated number one, on the London Sunday Times' list of the world's best beaches. But Patara is worth our attention for more than sand and surf. An archeological team led by Akdeniz University Professors Fahri Isik and Havva Iskan Isik recently unearthed an ancient parliament building in Patara—the meeting place of the first federal republic in recorded human history. The building, called the Bouletarion, housed at least twenty-three city-states of the Lycian League, which existed along the Mediterranean coast of Turkey from about 167 BC until 400 AD.

The Lycian League's republican governing system, utilizing proportional representation, was unparalleled in the ancient world, and fascinated the pioneering intellectuals of the Enlightenment, particularly Montesquieu. Depending on the size of the member cities, each elected one, two or three representatives to the Lycian parliament. When cities were too small, two or three banded together to share one representative vote. The six largest cities in the League had the right to three votes. The parliament elected a president, called the "Lycearch," which at various times served as