

Probation Officer in the Northern District of Florida.

At the request of District Judge William Wilkins, the first Chairman of the U.S. Sentencing Commission, Townley aided the development of the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines. In this position, Townley worked to guide fair criminal sentencing, ensuring just punishment and the safety of his community. Later, Townley served on the Probation Officers Advisory Group to the U.S. Sentencing Commission.

In 1990, Townley was named Supervising U.S. Probation Officer and was promoted 2 years later becoming the Northern District's first Deputy Chief Probation Officer. During his last 8 years of service, Townley held the position of Chief Probation Officer of the Northern District of Florida. To his community, he embodies the epitome of loyalty, as he strove daily to keep danger away from the public.

Madam Speaker, I would like to offer my sincere and heartfelt congratulations to Mr. Stephen Townley on his 30th anniversary in serving the public. For the past 30 years, he has dedicated himself towards helping the residents of Northwest Florida and for that we will be forever grateful. I wish him the best in his retirement.

HONORING COAST GUARD CAPTAIN PETER J. BOYNTON

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2007

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize a committed and respected serviceman, retiring Coast Guard Captain Peter J. Boynton, for his distinguished career.

Captain Boynton has much to be proud of in his 28 year long career with the U.S. Coast Guard. Serving 10 years at sea aboard six different cutters, his experience and commitment is not easily matched; and in June 2004, Boynton accepted the Commander position of the Long Island Sound sector.

As commander, he led 490 active duty military and civilians, 180 uniformed reservists, and 1,800 volunteers with the Coast Guard Auxiliary at 16 operational units. From his command, Captain Boynton oversaw a number of issues and missions involving coastal Connecticut, the Long Island Sound, Long Island, and offshore up to 200 miles. These included life-saving rescues, pollution responses, security enhancements, ice breaking missions, and counter narcotics enforcement operations.

Captain Boynton also served as White House Director of Global Affairs on the National Security Council and at the Department of State as coordinator of international Coast Guard operations. In addition, he has served as Chief of Intelligence for a multi-agency drug task force.

Captain Boynton's successor for the Commander position had this to say: "Captain Boynton has been an outstanding Sector Commander who has selflessly served the people of Connecticut and Long Island for these past 3 years. I understand I have some big shoes to fill following his retirement and I will work my hardest to continue Sector Long Island Sound's track record of exemplary service to the maritime community".

Captain Boynton will retire to Connecticut with his wife Susan, and their three children. Madam Speaker, I thank and congratulate Captain Boynton for his outstanding service and a highly distinguished career. We wish him and his family continued success and a bright future in the years ahead.

IN RECOGNITION OF THOMAS J. SCANLON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Thomas J. Scanlon as the 2007 recipient of the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law Alumni of the Year Award. His ongoing support of the School, as well as commitment to the community, has made him a worthy recipient.

Since his graduation from Cleveland-Marshall in 1963, Tom has dedicated his efforts to making Cleveland-Marshall a premier institution for the study of jurisprudence. He has served as president of the Alumni Association, and currently serves as a member of the Dean's Committee. Tom has also devoted his time and energies to improving the health and vibrancy of the Northeast Ohio community. Tom has served, and still serves, as a trustee for numerous organizations, such as the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, West Side Ecumenical Ministry, and the Irish-American Association, just to name a few.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Thomas J. Scanlon for his tireless dedication to Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and Northeast Ohio. May his service and hard work serve as an example for us all.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CONGRESSMAN PARREN MITCHELL

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2007

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I wish to honor the life of Congressman Parren J. Mitchell who died on May 28, 2007. Parren J. Mitchell, was a civil rights leader and a dynamic former U.S. congressman who helped to establish the Congressional Black Caucus. Congressman Mitchell was elected to the House of Representatives from Baltimore in 1970 and was Maryland's first black congressman. This great public leader from the state of Maryland served eight terms before stepping down in 1986.

Born in Baltimore, MD in 1922, Mr. Mitchell was a graduate of Morgan State College and earned a master's degree from the University of Maryland. Mitchell had to sue the then-segregated University of Maryland for admission to the graduate school, and won. Additionally, he served as an officer in the 92nd Infantry Division during World War II, during which time he was wounded and received the Purple Heart. Prior to his election to Congress, Mitchell worked in the administrations of Baltimore mayors Theodore R. McKeldin and Thomas J. D'Alesandro III and Governor J. Millard

Tawes. While active in state politics he was known as a passionate defender of minority and civil rights. Congressman Mitchell was also the brother of the late Clarence M. Mitchell, Jr., who was head of the NAACP's Washington office, and was one of Lyndon Johnson's chief advisors in the civil rights movement.

As a congressman, Mitchell fought for legislation requiring local governments to set aside 10 percent of federal grants to hire minority contractors. Congressman Mitchell was a crusader for minority economic rights and pushed forth to make economic empowerment a reality for minority-owned companies.

Congressman Mitchell dedicated his life to the ideal of public service. He served his country, his community, and his government with the determination and courage that is exemplary of a true public leader. He demonstrated his courage on the battlefield while fighting for democracy abroad and he would utilize that same courage and zeal to fight for equal rights and opportunities for all Americans here in the United States Congress.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Congressman Parren J. Mitchell.

RECOGNIZING SENATOR BOB ROVNER

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2007

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Bob Rovner—the 2007 recipient of The Spirit of Life Award from City of Hope. Mr. Rovner is being recognized by this outstanding organization for achievements in his field and his exceptional service to our community.

To be honored by a group with such a noble cause is a great distinction, one for which Mr. Rovner is certainly worthy. For years, City of Hope has been committed to the kind of medical research that has brought hope to millions of people living with a life-threatening disease. Madam Speaker, Bob Rovner represents the type of spirit and dedication that make organizations like City of Hope as successful as they are. He has spent years championing worthy causes, helping to publicly guide our community in a positive direction.

Mr. Rovner has spent his life performing an inspiring array of accomplishments in public service. Mr. Rovner began his career as an assistant district attorney under Sen. ARLEN SPECTER and alongside Gov. Ed Rendell. He was then elected as the youngest ever member of Pennsylvania's State Senate, where he sponsored the Lottery Bill to direct all of lottery's profits to benefit senior citizens. Mr. Rovner went on to a successful business career and became highly involved in the community, serving on the board of trustees for Temple University and hosting several popular radio shows.

Beyond his impressive resume and his reputation for public service, I can say from personal experience that Bob Rovner has affected many lives for the better. Madam Speaker, Mr. Rovner's influence on the community has been undeniable and his continued work will shape the future of our region.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mr. Rovner for this award, but I am more honored to consider Bob Rovner a colleague and a friend, and I would like to thank him on behalf of those whose lives he has touched.

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BILL
AND SUE LANDSKE

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2007

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great sincerity that I take this time to recognize the 50th wedding anniversary of two of Northwest Indiana's finest public servants, Mr. and Mrs. Bill and Sue Landske of Cedar Lake, Indiana. For years, Bill and Sue have been fully committed to the citizens they serve, with Bill serving on the Cedar Lake Town Council and Sue serving as a State Senator for over 23 years. At this time, I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their lifelong service and also congratulate them on their 50 years of devotion to each other.

Sue's service to her community extends far beyond her elected position. A veteran of the National Guard Reserve, Sue was elected to the Indiana State Senate in 1984. Senator Landske has remained fully committed to her constituents, and she has even remained an active member of several community organizations. For her efforts, Sue has received many accolades, including the prestigious Sagamore of the Wabash in 1980 and 1983. She has also been named Outstanding Republican Senator, Business and Professional Woman of the Year, Lake County Republican of the Year, and Jaycees' Citizen of the Year.

Not to be outdone, Bill Landske has been a constant fixture in his community for many years. In recent years, Bill has extended his service to the people of Cedar Lake as an elected official, where he has taken on the role of Cedar Lake Town Council member. His resolve to improve the quality of life for his constituents has been apparent since he took office, and he has served his constituents with complete dedication and professionalism.

Bill and Sue have shared many wonderful years together. They have epitomized true devotion and unwavering commitment. However, while they have remained fully dedicated to the people they serve, Bill and Sue's greatest source of pride is their family, which includes four daughters, Cathy (Don) Jones, Jackie (Jeffrey) Basilotta, Pam (Charles) Snyder, and Cheryl (Pete) Boisson, and one son, Eric. Bill and Sue have also been blessed with eight grandchildren: Matthew Jones; Leslie Stoops; Jeff Basilotta; Caitlin, Jenny, and Kim Snyder; and Patrick and Daniel Boisson. Bill and Sue's commitment to improving the future for their community and all of Northwest Indiana is surely an extension of their commitment to their grandchildren, whom they truly adore.

Madam Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Councilman Bill Landske and State Senator Sue Landske as they celebrate a remarkable milestone, their 50th wedding anniversary. While their years of service to the citizens of Northwest Indiana are to be commended, it is their unselfish and lifelong devotion to each other that is worthy of our deepest admiration.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2007

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, while I was absent from the House of Representatives last week due to the birth of my son, I would like to state how I would have voted on the following pieces of legislation if I had been able to be present: Rollcall No. 406—"yea"; rollcall No. 407—"yea"; rollcall No. 408—"yea"; rollcall No. 409—"nay"; rollcall No. 415—"nay"; rollcall No. 416—"nay"; rollcall No. 417—"nay"; rollcall No. 418—"nay"; rollcall No. 419—"yea"; rollcall No. 420—"yea"; rollcall No. 421—"nay"; rollcall No. 422—"yea"; rollcall No. 423—"yea"; rollcall No. 424—"yea"; rollcall No. 425—"yea."

URGING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS
TO SUPPORT CARICOM SUMMIT
TALKS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD an opinion editorial published in the *CaribNews* newspaper the week of May 17, 2007 titled "Caribbean Aims to Cash in on Face Time with Bush". This article expresses the importance of the CARICOM Summit meetings to be held in Washington, D.C. from June 19–21, 2007.

The heads of states of the 15 nations that comprise the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) will be in Washington meeting with the Administration, as well as members of Congress. During their meetings in Washington, they wish to discuss U.S.-Caribbean trade relations, cooperation in education and security initiatives, immigration, disaster preparedness and mitigation, and other issues arising from our important relationships with our Southern neighbors.

A Summit of this magnitude and with the full leadership of CARICOM represents the first of its kind under the Bush Administration. I commend the Administration's initiative in establishing stronger and more consistent relationships with island states whose strategic importance has been recognized by their designation by former Secretary of State Colin Powell as our "third border."

This Summit comes at an important time for the American people as we celebrate the contribution of millions of Caribbean-Americans during Caribbean American Heritage Month. It is estimated that over 2.6 million Caribbean-Americans currently live in the United States. People from the Caribbean have contributed to the building of this great nation as the earliest and largest source of Black immigrants to the U.S.

It is important to recognize the Caribbean as strategically significant to the U.S. in terms of security, international trade, and education initiatives. Members of CARICOM serve as crossroads for major air and sea routes between North America, Africa, Europe and Asia. It is in our country's national security interests

to make certain that the issues of poverty, illiteracy and HIV/AIDS in the region are addressed.

An unprecedented threat to the economic and social development of the Caribbean Community is HIV/AIDS. With a rate of 1.2 percent in 2006, Caribbean nations are second only to sub-Saharan Africa in adult HIV/AIDS prevalence. AIDS is one of the leading causes of death among adults aged 15–44 in the Caribbean, which threatens the Community's ability to achieve sustainable development. Migration from the Caribbean can contribute to the risk of HIV in the U.S., as acknowledged in USAID Assistant Administrator for Latin America and the Caribbean Adolfo Franco's testimony in 2005, citing statistics that Caribbean immigrants account for 46 percent of all immigrants testing HIV positive in New York City. High mobility in the region necessitates a regional approach in combating the epidemic. By supporting legislation that will include all the CARICOM nations in the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), we can expand our reach in fighting HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean and at home.

Although CARICOM countries receive preferential trade treatment under agreements such as the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI), CARICOM views its existing trading arrangements with the U.S. as no longer adequate. The CBI preferences are set to expire in October 2008, which could jeopardize an annual \$8 billion worth of trade. The current CBI also includes only eight of the 15 countries that comprise CARICOM, further emphasizing the need to establish a new trading relationship. Serving as a backdrop to the Summit this month is the establishment of a CARICOM Single Market in 2006 and plans for full economic integration in 2008. In terms of trade with the U.S., the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) serves as an opportunity to strengthen ties and better prepare the region for a free-trade agreement (FTA) with the United States.

In addition to U.S.-Caribbean trade revisions, there is also a need to create a framework to manage the negative impact of the deportation process on the CARICOM nations. Caribbean governments assert that rising crime rates in some Caribbean nations can be attributed in part to the large number of criminal deportees they receive from the United States, with over 5,000 being sent from the U.S. to the Caribbean between October 2005 and October 2006. High rates of crime and violence in the Caribbean are undermining growth and investment, threatening human welfare, and impeding social development.

Our national security is also threatened by a failure to manage the deportation process. When deportees are sent to the Caribbean—many of whom acquire assets and connections in the United States—they are often sent empty-handed without a family support network in the Caribbean. This situation breeds poverty among deportees, which can make weak States vulnerable to terrorist networks and drug cartels within their borders. According to the World Bank, murder rates in the Caribbean are higher than in any other region of the world, and assault rates are significantly above the world average. These challenges compounded by narcotics trafficking, which is at the core of these high rates, transcend national boundaries, threaten America's national security, and require a coordinated regional response.