

is Associate Commissioner for Legislative Development. On July 3, he will retire after a career of public service spanning more than 30 years.

Mr. Phillips began his public service as a member of the United States Army. After his military service, which included a tour of duty in Vietnam, he began his career in the Social Security Administration as a Claims Representative in the local office in Alton, IL. He was promoted to the Operations Supervisor in the Rock Island, IL Social Security office in 1980. In 1983, Web was selected as a management intern and completed a series of developmental assignments in the Chicago Regional Office and in SSA Headquarters in Baltimore. In 1987, Web moved to Baltimore and joined the staff of the Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs. Since 1995, Web has been assigned to SSA's Legislative Affairs Office in Washington. He was selected to serve in his current position as Associate Commissioner of Legislative Development in February 1999.

Ways and Means Committee Members and staff of both parties have had the pleasure of working with Web on many issues relating to Social Security during his tenure at SSA. The Subcommittee on Social Security, in particular, has benefited greatly from Web's in-depth knowledge of all aspects of Social Security policy and operations. Web has been unfailingly responsive and professional, and always provides Members and Committee staff with timely, accurate, and thorough information and analysis. Of special note is his contribution to the development of the legislation, enacted by Congress in 1994, that established the Social Security Administration as an independent agency.

It is important that we in Congress recognize the men and women who devote their working lives to improving the lives of others. Career civil servants usually do their work in quiet anonymity behind the scenes, but provide vital service to the Congress and the American people. Webster Phillips is one of those people. His record of leadership at the Social Security Administration and his commitment to providing the American people with effective and compassionate service is a record of which he can be justly proud.

We wish Web all the best in his retirement from the Social Security Administration and thank him for his many years of dedicated federal service.

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**TRIBUTE TO HAMILTON COUNTY, WEBSTER CITY, AND THE WEBSTER CITY DAILY FREEMAN-JOURNAL**

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**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 15, 2007*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Hamilton County, Webster City, and the Webster City Daily Freeman-Journal on their 150th year anniversary. Hamilton County is located in north central Iowa and is home to approximately 16,500 people. It was named in honor of William W. Hamilton, who served as President of the Iowa State Senate from 1856–1857. Hamilton County was home to MacKinlay Kantor who won the Pul-

itzer Prize for Fiction in 1956 for his novel *Andersonville*.

The county seat of Hamilton County is Webster City, which is located along the Boone River. The city was started by Wilson Brewer when he built a log cabin by the Boone River. Brewer and William Flakes platted the town of Newcastle, which was later sold for \$22,000 to Walter Wilson and his brother Sumler. Wilson was eventually elected State representative; in that capacity he requested the help of William Hamilton to divide the rather large county of Webster into two counties, Webster and Hamilton. The act of January 1, 1857 officially changed the city name from Newcastle to Webster City.

Throughout its long tenure The Daily Freeman-Journal has provided excellent national, state, and local news coverage to the people of Webster City and Hamilton County. The Daily Freeman-Journal is Hamilton County's longest continuously operating business. Throughout its history, the paper has won numerous awards including the Governor's Volunteer Award, Outstanding Outreach/Community Service Newspaper, numerous advertising awards, and several best page awards.

Again, I congratulate Hamilton County, Webster City, and The Daily Freeman-Journal on this historic anniversary.

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**RECOGNIZING AND WELCOMING THE DELEGATION OF PRESIDENTS, PRIME MINISTERS, AND FOREIGN MINISTERS FROM THE CARIBBEAN TO WASHINGTON, DC**

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**SPEECH OF**

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 11, 2007*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome an impressive delegation of Presidents, Prime Ministers, and Foreign Ministers from the Caribbean to Washington, DC for the first "Conference on the Caribbean" through the coordination of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the State Department, and Congress.

This multifaceted and dynamic region is strikingly promising, offering an array of opportunities. CARICOM is committed to enhancing economic integration through a common market and common trade policies. Members of this organization are also committed to increasing their functional cooperation by pooling resources and services in the area of human and social development, as well as coordinating foreign policy objectives that make a concerted stride for regional advancement.

The fact that this meeting is taking place in our Nation's capitol is indeed something that I applaud. However, I would be remiss if I did not emphasize the concentrated costs associated with developing an institutional framework needed to secure deeper regional integration. Therefore, it is essential that the international community invests in the socioeconomic infrastructure of this lucrative region in order to increase competitiveness and development. Aggressively pursuing partnerships and seizing opportunities to open markets are instrumental in securing a progressive future for this often ignored region.

This fortified partnership is much needed to address plaguing social dilemmas that warrant

international attention. As HIV/AIDS, crime, and poverty ripple through the Caribbean region, we must be compelled to advocate for this region's growing plights. The increasing West Indian influence in the U.S. legitimizes the need for continued U.S.-Caribbean relations. According to 2000 census data an estimated 1.9 million of the total U.S. population comes from a West Indian background.

I am proud to represent Florida's 23rd district where approximately 115,000, or 18 percent of the entire district, has a Caribbean heritage. The growing presence of West Indians in South Florida, New York, and Washington, DC, has contributed to enhancing multicultural communities that are committed to economic development and social advancement.

I applaud this important step, and look forward to working with CARICOM to improve the overall relations between the U.S. Congress and our Caribbean allies.

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**A TRIBUTE TO BOB JAMES**

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**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 15, 2007*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional musician, Mr. Bob James. The career of Bob James is long, varied, and continues to evolve at every turn. From his first piano recital in Marshall, MO to the formation of his own trio while attending the University of Michigan to the gigs in New York City and beyond, the music of Bob James has captivated audiences throughout the world.

Bob James recorded his first solo album "Bold Conceptions" not long after he was discovered by Quincy Jones at the Notre Dame Jazz Festival in 1963. Another 25 solo albums would follow within a span of four decades. However, that does not include his Grammy Award-winning collaboration projects. However, it was not until Bob James met up with Creed Taylor in New York that his composing, arranging and recording career took off. After working with such CTI Recording artists as Hank Crawford and Grover Washington, Jr., James finally recorded his own album, "One." This introduced his music to a much larger audience and launched a lifelong career of recording and performing live.

Bob James moved to Warner Brothers Records in 1985, beginning an association with another million seller and Grammy Award-winning album "Double Vision." This album was a collaboration with David Sanborn. In 1990, while recording the "Grand Piano Canyon" album, Bob James reunited with his old friend, drummer Harvey Mason and worked for the first time with Lee Ritenour on guitar and Nathan East on bass. The recording sessions for this project were the genesis of the group "Fourplay." Their first album was recorded and released in 1991.

Bob James experienced a personal and professional career highlight when he collaborated with his daughter Hilary on the "Flesh & Blood" album. The music for the project was jointly written by the two of them. They later toured 15 U.S. cities in acoustic vocal and piano duet performances.

Madam Speaker, I cannot say enough about Mr. Bob James. He has been considerate in

sharing his gifts with the rest of the world. I would like to recognize all of his accomplishments and achievements which are far too numerous to list today.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this wonderfully gifted musician.

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INTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD ABOLITION ACT

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 15, 2007*

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation to restore financial stability to America's economy by abolishing the Federal Reserve. Since the creation of the Federal Reserve, middle-and working-class Americans have been victimized by a boom-and-bust monetary policy. In addition, most Americans have suffered a steadily eroding purchasing power because of the Federal Reserve's inflationary policies. This represents a real, if hidden, tax imposed on the American people.

From the Great Depression, to the stagflation of the 70s, to the burst of the dotcom bubble, every economic downturn suffered by the country over the last 80 years can be traced to Federal Reserve policy. The Fed has followed a consistent policy of flooding the economy with easy money, leading to a misallocation of resources and an artificial "boom" followed by a recession or depression when the Fed-created bubble bursts.

With a stable currency, American exporters will no longer be held hostage to an erratic monetary policy. Stabilizing the currency will also give Americans new incentives to save as they will no longer have to fear inflation eroding their savings. Those members concerned about increasing America's exports or the low rate of savings should be enthusiastic supporters of this legislation.

Though the Federal Reserve policy harms the average American, it benefits those in a position to take advantage of the cycles in monetary policy. The main beneficiaries are those who receive access to artificially inflated money and/or credit before the inflationary effects of the policy impact the entire economy. Federal Reserve policies also benefit big spending politicians who use the inflated currency created by the Fed to hide the true costs of the welfare-warfare state. It is time for Congress to put the interests of the American people ahead of special interests and their own appetite for big government.

Abolishing the Federal Reserve will allow Congress to reassert its constitutional authority over monetary policy. The United States Constitution grants to Congress the authority to coin money and regulate the value of the currency. The Constitution does not give Congress the authority to delegate control over monetary policy to a central bank. Furthermore, the Constitution certainly does not empower the Federal Government to erode the American standard of living via an inflationary monetary policy.

In fact, Congress' constitutional mandate regarding monetary policy should only permit currency backed by stable commodities such as silver and gold to be used as legal tender. Therefore, abolishing the Federal Reserve and

returning to a constitutional system will enable America to return to the type of monetary system envisioned by our Nation's founders: one where the value of money is consistent because it is tied to a commodity such as gold. Such a monetary system is the basis of a true free-market economy.

In conclusion, Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to stand up for working Americans by putting an end to the manipulation of the money supply which erodes Americans' standard of living, enlarges big government, and enriches well-connected elites, by cosponsoring my legislation to abolish the Federal Reserve.

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CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH: ACKNOWLEDGING THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNITED STATES

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 15, 2007*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the exceptional contributions of Americans of Caribbean descent during the celebration of Caribbean American Heritage Month. I also recognize the special ties between the nations of the Caribbean and the United States, a relationship that will be manifest and renewed later this month in a dialogue between Heads of Government of the Caribbean and our own national leadership, led by President Bush and including members of his cabinet and the Congressional leadership as well, on June 19–21 in Washington, DC.

While the significance of Caribbean Americans to the building and advancement of America cannot be fully expressed, I will acknowledge several contributions they have made to the very fabric of our Nation.

People from the English speaking Caribbean have helped shape this great land as the earliest and largest source of Black immigrants to the United States. Caribbean Americans such as Virgin Islander Edward Blyden, along with West Indian Americans George Padmore, Marcus Garvey and Claude McKay influenced the course of civil rights in America. The contributions of these individuals alone comprise over one hundred years of writing, empowering, and engaging the policies and values that serve as the cornerstones of this country.

The founder of Chicago, Jean Baptiste Point du Sable, was born in Haiti, and Shirley Chisholm, the first African-American woman elected to Congress, is also of Caribbean ancestry. Colin Powell, the first African-American Secretary of State, is of Jamaican heritage.

Today, Caribbean Americans continue to serve as catalysts for change by serving in local, State and Federal Government, among which include Congresswoman BARBARA LEE, who introduced the legislation in the House to recognize Caribbean American Heritage Month and Congresswoman YVETTE CLARKE, who served as the first Director of Business Development for the Bronx Empowerment Zone.

Caribbean-Americans have fought to protect and defend our Nation during times of war. In the struggle for American Independence, over 500 Haitians joined colonial troops against the

British at the Siege of Savannah. In response to President George W. Bush's current efforts to assist a young and fragile democracy, hundreds of Caribbean-Americans fight in the U.S. Armed Forces to bring stability in Iraq.

In business, education, law enforcement, entertainment, sports, religion, and public service, the force of Caribbean-Americans has energized the Nation to achieve superiority in the international community. I invite my colleagues to join with me in celebrating the contributions of people of Caribbean descent and in support of H. Res. 418 commanding the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) for holding the Conference on the Caribbean in Washington, DC, from June 19 to 21.

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TRIBUTE TO REBEKAH FRESE

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 15, 2007*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate a student from Lenihan Intermediate School in Marshalltown, IA.

Rebekah Frese has been selected to present her award winning history project at the Smithsonian National Museum of America. Rebekah's project was one of a handful selected by the National History Day program from hundreds of thousands nationwide.

Each project reflected on this year's National History Day theme, "Triumph and Tragedy in History." Rebekah's project highlighted the underground railroad in the State of Iowa. Iowa had numerous locations on the underground railroad actively assisting runaway slaves to reach Canada and freedom. In taverns, houses, and cellars throughout the State, fleeing slaves were able to realize a few hours of security and rest thanks to the great Iowans who risked their own lives and property to befriend and protect the fleeing slaves.

Rebekah's teachers, Millie Frese and Karen Roessler, are also to be commended and congratulated for this accomplishment. They have instilled the importance and value of history in their students as an integral part of the education of Rebekah, her classmates, and future generations of Iowans.

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RECOGNIZING JOHN PEHLE FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS IN HELPING RESCUE JEWS AND OTHER MINORITIES FROM THE HOLOCAUST

SPEECH OF

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 11, 2007*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, while we often celebrate the efforts of those who admirably risked their lives to protect others during the Holocaust, there remain many whose efforts have gone largely unnoticed. The American Government officials who helped create the War Refugee Board may not have put their lives in danger, but their efforts on behalf of the victims of Nazi power helped save thousands.

As early as 1942, our Government had received extensive, credible information confirming the atrocities being committed against