

On the occasion of World Refugee Day, we could not forget those who voluntarily subject themselves to the same harsh conditions in order to care for and protect refugees and displaced persons. It was necessary to pay a special tribute particularly to the men and women who have suffered violence, many to the point of death, in their efforts to assist the people of Darfur. Humanitarian groups there have reported being harassed by the Government of Sudan and deliberately attacked by rebel groups. Over a dozen humanitarian workers have been killed over the past year. In mid-December 2006, armed groups launched a major attack against NGO compounds in Gereida, South Darfur. On January 19, 2007, Sudanese Government security forces arrested and severely beat 20 UN staff members in Nyala, South Darfur. On February 5, 2007, a civilian police officer with AMIS was killed in an IDP camp in the North.

The men and women who risk their welfare and their very lives to care for these refugees truly live out the words, "I was hungry, and you gave me food; thirsty and you gave me drink; a stranger, and you welcomed me." I convey to these heroic men and women my personal gratitude for lending their hands and hearts to some of our poorest brothers and sisters.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 22, 2007

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, June 21, 2007, I was absent during rollcall vote No. 542. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on agreeing to H.R. 2764, the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations for FY 2008.

HONORING MS. JILL CARPENTER
NOAA TEACHER AT SEA

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 22, 2007

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Ms. Jill Carpenter, an outstanding constituent and educator from the 10th Congressional District of Virginia, for her dedication to bringing real scientific research to the classroom.

Ms. Carpenter, a fifth grade teacher at Hutchinson Farm Elementary in South Riding, VA, was chosen last summer by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Teacher at Sea Program to participate in a ten-day research cruise on the Atlantic Ocean. From aboard the NOAA Ship DELEWARE II, Ms. Carpenter not only researched fisheries, but also interviewed scientists, maintained daily logs, and engaged in dialogue with her fellow teachers, students and the general public. She took part in the Teacher at Sea experience in order to enrich her curriculum and excite her students about the sciences.

In her log, Ms. Carpenter wrote, "It is exciting to see science experiments happening

every day, with real people in a real-life context, instead of reading about it from a worksheet or having that intangible image in my mind of a mad scientist in a white lab coat stirring a beaker of something bubbling. Science is accessible to everybody! You don't have to be in a fancy laboratory or have the latest equipment. It can be done inside or out, on a boat or in your backyard. Science encompasses so many fields and is available to anyone with a curious mind. I am excited to share this realization with my students and make science more real to them. I am looking forward to returning home to my family, friends, and classroom and sharing my experience with them. This trip has been invaluable to me in so many ways. I have met with many amazing people, I have participated in recording ocean data, and I have seen how much thought, effort and talent goes into running a fisheries research vessel. I gained hands-on knowledge and experience." Ms. Carpenter was supported by a partnership between the Loudoun Education Foundation and the NOAA Teacher at Sea Program.

I am proud to call attention to Ms. Carpenter's dedication. I congratulate Ms. Carpenter on her spirit of adventure, her willingness to try new things, and her ability to bring this experience back to the classroom. I also commend the Loudoun County School district and the Loudoun Education Foundation for supporting the efforts of this teacher to promote scientific education in the classroom.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 22, 2007

Mr. BECERRA. Madam Speaker, on Monday, June 18, 2007 and Wednesday, June 20, 2007, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall numbers 499, 500, 501, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525 and 526.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on the following rollcall votes: 499, 500, 501, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 521 and 526, and "nay" on the following rollcall votes: 517, 518, 519, 520, 522, 523, 524 and 525.

TRIBUTE TO MIKE PETERS

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 22, 2007

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of Mike Peters and to thank him for his leadership in the fight against cancer. Through his internationally-acclaimed music, his Love Hope Strength Foundation, and through his personal victories over cancer, Mike Peters has been a source of inspiration and hope to the millions affected by cancer around the world.

Mike Peters is best known as the vocalist of the legendary Welsh rock band, The Alarm, whose music has received critical acclaim and commercial success worldwide. After being diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma in

1995, he could have canceled his band's upcoming tour and fought his illness in private. Instead, he courageously moved forward with the tour and, as Mike has put it, "went to war with his mind," wearing his now-famous green combat fatigues throughout the tour, and keeping a positive outlook on his life. When he returned, that courage and optimism paid off—his condition had reversed and he no longer needed treatment.

Ten years after his first victory over Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, he found out he would have another battle ahead. In 2005, he was diagnosed with Chronic Lymphocyte Leukemia. These cancers develop within a patient's lymphatic system and can be difficult to treat, depending when it is caught. Significant strides have been made in finding treatments for leukemia and lymphoma, but more must be done to prevent these diseases from occurring and to alleviate the suffering of so many who are diagnosed with these diseases every year.

With the same positive attitude and green combat fatigues that carried him through his first battle with cancer, Mike did not let his diagnosis slow him down. Using his musical talents and network of artists, Peters established the Love Hope Strength Foundation to build a support network for cancer patients worldwide. The goal of the Foundation is to increase funding for cancer research, lighten the financial strain of medical care on cancer patients and their families, and inform government officials about the concerns of cancer patients. Peters continues to maintain a busy tour schedule, giving inspired performances and raising awareness about his foundation and the fight against cancer.

Mike Peters should be applauded for not taking his diagnosis without a fight. His personal victories over cancer and his foundation's programs are giving hope to families and communities worldwide. His efforts are an example for how one person can turn his struggles into a triumph and an inspiration for others, and it is my privilege to honor him here today.

PAULA BLINCOE COLLINS' ART
SELECTED FOR THE CITY OF
DENTON

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 22, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, it is my greatest pleasure to announce that Paula Blincoe Collins of Denton has been selected by the Denton Public Art Committee to create its first commissioned piece of public art which is to be displayed in the lobby of the Denton Civic Center. The piece is a mural that portrays Quakertown, an African-American settlement that stood where the Denton Civic Center is before it was relocated to Southeast Denton in the 1920s.

The artist Paula Collins is well known for her skills in brick sculpture. Among her many creations are two previously completed projects for City facilities, the "Woman of Justice" installed in 1994 and two entrance monuments erected in Denton at the Pecan Creek Waste Management facility in 2000.

For this project, which is expected to be completed in spring 2008, Ms. Collins will consult with the descendants of the original

Quakertown residents. Together they will select a wide assortment of images that represent life in that community and which will be depicted on the brick mural.

The nine-member Public Art Committee was appointed by the City Council in 2006 to promote the cultural environment, tourism, enhance community aesthetics, improve the quality of life by allowing people to experience art in public places, showcase cultural diversity, and create a distinctive city identity. It serves as an advisory committee to the Parks, Recreation, and Beautification Board, which are also council appointed. The director of the Greater Denton Arts Council serves as an ex-officio member and the director of the Denton Parks and Recreation Department is staff liaison to the committee. Its funding comes from the hotel tax funds allocated annually for public events and projects that make Denton an attractive tourist venue.

I am honored to serve such a talented individual like Paula Collins, and I know that her art will beauty our great city.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 22, 2007

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, on Friday, June 22, 2007, I was absent during rollcall vote 543. Had I been present, I would have voted "Yea" on ordering the Previous Question to H. Res. 502, providing for the consideration of H.R. 2771, Legislative Branch Appropriations for FY 2008.

HONORING OUTSTANDING AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSICIANS DURING BLACK MUSIC MONTH

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 22, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of African American musicians as we celebrate Black Music Month.

Music has a deep historical significance to African Americans, who are truly the founders and keepers of American music. The roots of gospel and blues can be traced back to the slave plantations. During slavery, African Americans sang songs and clapped hands to communicate with one another and to uplift their spirits. The music helped to sustain enslaved people and provided an outlet to express their hopes and fears. During the Civil Rights Movement, African American musicians offered encouragement and hope for an America in which all people would be treated equally. By creating and popularizing gospel, blues, jazz, funk, disco, pop, and hip-hop, they have inspired and entertained people from all races around the world.

I wish to thank President Carter, who in 1979 initiated the annual celebration of Black Music Month each June. Each succeeding president has continued to proclaim June as Black Music Month.

Among the many talented and gifted African American musicians, who have inspired us in

ways that transcended their music, I have introduced legislation in the 110th Congress to honor Lionel Hampton, Lena Horne, James Brown, and Ray Charles. Their commitment to uplifting America through song and activism has made them legendary.

Lionel Hampton, an accomplished jazz musician, band leader, U.S. goodwill ambassador, became a musical icon in a career that spanned more than 50 years until his death in 2002. He composed more than 200 pieces and was honored by President Clinton with the National Medal of Arts in 1996. The University of Idaho's music school and annual jazz festival are named in his honor.

The extraordinary Lena Horne was not only a Broadway performer, world renowned singer, and actress, she was a steadfast civil rights activist. Putting her career on the line, she proudly spoke out against racial discrimination. As a result, she was blackballed.

However, her hardship was not in vain because she has been a trailblazer and role model for aspiring African American entertainers. She was honored with the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award in 1989. Her most recent album *Seasons Of Life* was released in January of 2006. She currently resides in New York and on June 30, 2007, will turn 90 years old.

James Brown, the "Godfather of Soul," who passed away in December of 2006, was a monumental influence on popular music in America and around the world. During the sixties, many of his songs were more than dance hits and became anthems for the Civil Rights Movement. His music instilled pride in African Americans as they were fighting for equality. He was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1986 and was the recipient of the 34th Annual Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award in 1992.

The phenomenal Ray Charles overcame blindness and personal problems to become one of America's most inspiring artists. His music advanced the civil rights movement and united Americans. He has been credited with singing the most popular rendition of America the Beautiful. His version of Georgia On My Mind was made an official Georgia state song and he was ranked number ten in 2004 for Rolling Stone's 100 Greatest Artist of All Times list. In that same year, he passed away. I introduced legislation to award him with a Congressional Gold Medal.

These musical legends and many other African American musicians have contributed to American music and the nation's cultural identity around the world. I urge my colleagues to support legislation to honor them. I also urge my colleagues and people around the world to celebrate, honor, and cherish the contributions of African American musicians, especially during Black Music Month.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 2641) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes:

Mr. CAMP of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of a project that deserves the support of every member of this House. The Great Lakes Energy Research Park, which is to be located in the heart of the district I represent, will be the first Integrated Gasification Combined-Cycle facility in the world to co-produce (1) over 728 Mw of electric power and (2) permanently sequester over 3.8 million tons per year of carbon dioxide which will ultimately recover over 180 million barrels of stranded oil. Let me repeat that—180 million barrels of stranded oil. I'm not talking about new drilling in environmentally sensitive areas and I'm not talking about opening up new wells. I am talking about finally tapping much needed resources that yesterday's technology simply could not drive out of the ground. Additionally, it is important to note that this bed of oil reserves is located in the geographic center of Michigan—not in the Great Lakes, and far from Hurricane Alley, where most of our crude wells lie. As we learned from Katrina, geographic diversity is as an important topic in the energy debate as is alternative energies. So, as we discuss utilizing new technologies, clean technologies to solve our dependence on foreign crude, we would be foolish to ignore the types of technology being put in place in Alma, Michigan.

This project, however, is about much more than recovering stranded oil. This facility is designed in such a way to virtually utilize every byproduct of energy production. With this type of forward thinking it is no wonder that the project has received support from a wide variety of local community groups, institutions, citizens and organizations. Included among the list of proponents are the City of Alma, Michigan, Firstbank of Alma, Michigan, the Gratiot Medical Center, Alma College, the Gratiot County Board of Commissioners and the Gratiot Area Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Chairman, as American families and businesses grapple with rising energy costs, the Great Lakes Energy Research Park can be a part of the solution. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this unique effort to produce more energy here in America.

HONORING DR. JOSEPHINE ELIZABETH SEATON FRANKLIN ON HER 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 22, 2007

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary woman, a resident of the 2nd Congressional District of Illinois, Dr. Josephine Elizabeth Seaton Franklin on her 80th birthday.

Dr. Josephine Elizabeth Seaton Franklin was born July 1, 1927, in Cleveland, Ohio. During her long career in education, she obtained a master degree and doctorate degree in education, having taught in Virginia, Michigan and Chicago, IL.

She is a founding member and the first president of Theta Rho Omega Chapter, of