

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN SULLIVAN**

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 10, 2007*

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to state for the record that I missed rollcall vote 542 to H.R. 2764 taken on June 21, 2007. Had I been present for this vote, I would have voted "nay."

As an ardent supporter of the rights of the unborn, I am strongly opposed to this legislation, which weakens existing Federal policies and laws on abortion.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND WORK OF DR. ELIAS BLAKE, JR., FORMER PRESIDENT OF CLARK COLLEGE, ATLANTA, GA AND LIFELONG ADVOCATE FOR EDUCATION, CIVIL RIGHTS AND THE ADVANCEMENT OF JAZZ MUSIC, 1922-2007

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 10, 2007*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and work of Dr. Elias Blake, Jr., former president of Clark College in Atlanta, GA. Dr. Blake was an impassioned advocate for education, social justice and Historically Black Colleges and Universities. His passing is a profound loss to the struggle for higher education in the African-American community.

Dr. Blake led Clark College from 1977 until 1987. During that decade, he developed and implemented a plan that resulted in placing the college on a sound financial path, major improvements in faculty training and curriculum, securing national accreditations for many academic programs, seeking out and retaining the best and brightest minds to enhance their academic and life skills, and enhancing science, mathematics and musical scholarships while making jazz music a signature experience at Clark College.

Madam Speaker, I cannot in this short time do justice to the life and achievements of Dr. Elias Blake, Jr.; however, it is fitting that as his final accomplishment he was working on a study of Brown v. Board of Education, the landmark decision of the United States Supreme Court that overturned segregation in our Nation's public schools.

A lifelong advocate for jazz music, Dr. Blake worked with such notables as Dizzy Gillespie, Max Roach, Billy Taylor, and many others to encourage younger musicians in their musical pursuits. My heart goes out to the family of Elias Blake, Jr. and I want them to know that I appreciate the life and work of Dr. Blake and that he will be greatly missed.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Dr. Elias Blake, Jr. for his continuing dedication to the world's children as well as those children in our community.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Dr. Elias Blake, Jr., former president of Clark College.

## REGARDING THE SCORE ASSOCIATION

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 10, 2007*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, America's small businesses are among the most vital elements of the Nation's economy. Small businesses employ 50 percent of the Nation's workforce, produce 97 percent of all exports and generate the majority of innovations that come from U.S. companies.

Many times, an entrepreneur's dreams become a nightmare because they lack the necessary training to plan and evaluate a business proposal or they lack the proper funding or skills to be successful. That is why Madam Speaker I rise today to recognize the work and committed public service of employees and volunteers of SCORE.

SCORE is a vital source of free and confidential advice for existing and emerging small businesses and has become a trusted and valued partner of the U.S. Small Business Administration. SCORE has 389 chapters nationwide staffed with 10,500 volunteers comprised of working and retired small business owners, successful corporate executives and military veterans and professionals. These experienced business counselors share their knowledge and experience with entrepreneurs in the strictest confidence and without conflicts of interest.

In the past year, SCORE conducted more than 300,000 counseling sessions and held nearly 7,000 workshops with more than 125,000 attendees. SCORE volunteers have devoted more than one million hours to helping America's small business owners and entrepreneurs.

SCORE volunteers deserve to be recognized for their commitment to public service and for their efforts to build strong communities and strong small businesses.

CONGRATULATING SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH OF WACO ON THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. CHET EDWARDS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 10, 2007*

Mr. EDWARDS. Madam Speaker, on June 24, 2007 the parishioners and community of Waco celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, a cornerstone of our Central Texas community.

Like many Spanish Franciscan churches in this great nation, Sacred Heart Parish had a very humble beginning. In 1946, the priests of St. Francis Church established three catechetical centers: Hernandez at 2306 Bagby Avenue, Gonzalez at 2224 James Street, and Rosas at 2313 Bagby Avenue. On June 30, 1957, in what became known as a very moving ceremony, the Most Reverend Louis J. Reicher, Bishop of Austin dedicated the Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

Several outstanding and dedicated priests have demonstrated their devotion and commitment to the growth and development of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church over the past

50 years, including Father Francisco Dols, Father Miguel Rigo, Reverend Anthony Ferrer, Father Gonzalo Ferrer, and presently Father Lawrence Soler.

Under the leadership of Father Lawrence Soler, the Sacred Heart Church has impacted the lives of many people. Father Soler, recognized for over 50 years in the priesthood, has a history of unselfish devotion to others, a legacy of personal achievement, as well as, an unwavering commitment to his faith.

The profound words of Father Lawrence, spoken during the 25th anniversary of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, best describe the impressive past, as well as the bright future of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church: "From a few scattered families it has grown into a closely knit community of faith, pooling its talents, coordinating its efforts for more effectiveness, so that God may be glorified and mankind served. Our greatest strength in the future will be, as it was in the past, our Faith, our Hope, and our Love."

With this compelling mission of faith and the spiritual message of serving others to guide them, the people of Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Waco have touched countless lives. On this 50th anniversary, I rise to honor the moral leadership, dedication to community, and generous spirit of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, and extend my warmest wishes for continued blessings in the years ahead.

IN RECOGNITION OF STAFF SERGEANT MATTHEW P. PATNAUDE

**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 10, 2007*

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of SSgt Matthew P. Patnaude, 314th Civil Engineering Squadron, United States Air Force. SSgt Patnaude, an Explosive Ordnance Disposal, EOD, Technician, has been recognized by the Air Force Times as the 2007 Airman of the Year.

As an EOD Technician, SSgt Patnaude was deployed to Kirkuk, Iraq, to help protect our armed forces from various forms of enemy ordnance. During his time in Iraq SSgt Patnaude safeguarded over 16,000 coalition troops by executing 105 high-risk missions, neutralizing 45 IEDs, uncovering 9 weapons caches, and disposing of 40,000 pieces of enemy armaments. This exemplary service record alone is reason enough to recognize SSgt Patnaude, but his impressive resume stretches far beyond these black and white numbers.

While on a mission to neutralize a roadside bomb in Iraq, SSgt Patnaude was attacked by an enemy sniper. Although seriously injured by the sniper's bullet, he vectored his security team to the sniper's location, as well as kept the medic treating his wounds advised of the enemy's activities. The SSgt also exemplified courage under fire when wounded by an enemy IED during yet another high-risk mission. Always putting his team first, SSgt Patnaude checked on his chief, radioed security, and set up the area for medical personnel. As SSgt Patnaude's supervisor has previously stated: "his actions under fire are, simply put, heroic."

SSgt Patnaude is the recipient of two Purple Hearts, but praise from his command goes far beyond his service in Iraq. In addition to his impressive record while on-duty, SSgt Patnaude is also deeply involved in community service. SSgt Patnaude volunteers for both Air Force and local community projects, including his role as an Air Force ambassador to the Boy Scouts of America.

I wish to express my admiration and respect for such a fine example of the excellence and heroism that abounds in our Armed Forces. I am proud to have such an exemplary soldier and citizen come from my Congressional District. On behalf of the people of the 25th District of New York, I extend my sincere congratulations to SSgt Patnaude on his selection as the 2007 Airman of the Year.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. JACK  
SPARROW

**HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 10, 2007*

Mr. ROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Jack Sparrow, a resident of Englewood, NJ, for his work and devotion to the Hope and Heroes Children's Cancer Fund for the Children's Hospital of New York Presbyterian.

Jack Sparrow was born in Brooklyn, NY, on February 12th, 1948. He continued on to St. John's University on a full tennis scholarship. Following graduation, Mr. Sparrow worked in recreational athletics until founding his own home design and construction venture, Quintessence, about 26 years ago. Mr. Sparrow and his company's specialty is designing and building new homes, however his passion remains in historic preservation and restoration. Mr. Sparrow is responsible for numerous historical restoration projects in Bergen County, NJ. Most famously, Mr. Sparrow restored the Brayton Estate in Englewood, originally built in 1857, and his own former house on Franklin Street, built in 1860.

Mr. Sparrow is the proud father of three wonderful children, who have blessed him with four grandchildren. Mr. Sparrow has been very active in his community of Englewood for many years, as a parent, a resident, and a small business owner. He has also been involved in numerous philanthropic organizations as a premier philanthropist, including the American Cancer Society and, most notably, the Hope and Heroes Children's Cancer Fund for Children's Hospital of New York Presbyterian.

Today, I would like to recognize Jack Sparrow's dedication to the Hope and Heroes Children's Cancer Fund for Children's Hospital of New York Presbyterian and I congratulate him on his admirable philanthropic achievements. I send him my very best wishes and thank him for his dedication.

HONORING LARRY A. SHEHADEY

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 10, 2007*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Larry Shehadey of Fresno, CA,

the patriarch of Producers Dairy Foods and a generous supporter of California State University, Fresno, and its endeavors, on the occasion of his 100th birthday on July 2, 2007.

Larry was born July 2, 1907, in Pleasant Valley, near Yosemite National Park in California. In 1932, he married Nelly Elayne Maascant in San Francisco. He worked for Parr Soap Company and Ready Whip before buying interest in a company called Producers Dairy in Fresno, California. He moved to Fresno in 1950 to protect his interest in the company, and then purchased the company. His wife Elayne worked by his side, making collections and helping to get the company on its feet.

Since Larry took ownership of Producers, the company has been very successful, outlasting some 50 competitors. It has grown to include northern, central, and southern California. Its products include milk, flavored milk, cheese, butter, cottage cheese, buttermilk, orange juice, juice drinks, eggnog, ice cream, and many other products.

Lastly, Larry has donated to numerous local charities in the Central Valley, including Valley Children's Hospital, Saint Agnes Hospital, and California State University, Fresno. Larry made a major \$3 million donation to the Save Mart Center in Fresno, and the Tower at the Center has been named Larry A. Shehadey Tower. Over the years, Larry also has supported numerous youth programs, including the Boy Scouts and Big Brothers and Big Sisters. His support of Fresno City College has helped hundreds of students through various scholarships.

Larry and Elayne have two children: John and Richard.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Larry Shehadey. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Shehadey for his support of the Fresno community and wishing him many more years of happiness.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN SULLIVAN**

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 10, 2007*

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to state for the record that I missed rollcall vote No. 534 to H.R. 2764 taken on June 21, 2007. Had I been present for this vote, I would have voted "aye."

I am opposed to overturning the long-standing Mexico City policy which prohibits funding for foreign non-governmental organizations that perform or promote abortions as a method of family planning. I stand in strong support of H. Amdt. 368, which would remove the language overturning the Mexico City policy.

DECEPTIVE PRACTICES AND  
VOTER INTIMIDATION PREVEN-  
TION ACT OF 2007

**HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 25, 2007*

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, recent elections have been marred

by allegations of deceptive practices that are frequently centered in neighborhoods that have a large minority or low-income population. These communities are littered with inaccurate election information in a deliberate effort to prevent voters from casting their ballots on Election Day.

When most people think of violations of the Voting Rights Act they envision Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Freedom Riders. However, many don't realize that voter suppression still occurs today.

One example of recent voter suppression hits close to home. During the 2006 election, constituents of my sister, LORETTA, were targeted. Letters were sent to individuals with Spanish surnames, written in Spanish, informing them that immigrants voting in a federal election were committing a crime "that could result in incarceration and possible deportation..." These letters were false. Immigrants who have become naturalized citizens have as much a right to vote as citizens who are born here. In fact, many immigrants have told me that one of the great privileges that accompanies their naturalization is the right to vote in free elections. This letter disseminated false information and ignited fear in the Hispanic community. The clear intention was to suppress the Hispanic vote.

This is just one example—and sadly it is not an isolated incident. These types of practices still occur today, all over the country. That is why I rise in full support of H.R. 1281, the Deceptive Practices and Voter Intimidation Prevention Act of 2007 and applaud my colleagues for tackling this critical issue.

H.R. 1281 strengthens the prohibitions on and punishments for deceptive practices that aim to keep voters away from the polls. It also requires that the Justice Department prevent and end misinformation campaigns that mislead voters and prevent them from voting.

The right to vote is one of the most cherished rights granted to U.S. citizens. I am proud to support this bill that ensures that those who attempt to infringe on that right are stopped and punished.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF VFW PVT. HENRY  
OSTENDORF POST 1300

**HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 10, 2007*

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 75th anniversary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Pvt. Henry Ostendorf Post 1300 in Granite City, IL.

In 1932, our Nation's veterans faced the same problems as the rest of their fellow citizens as the Nation was in the grips of the Great Depression. Many veterans, due to injuries received while on active duty, were at a greater disadvantage as medical bills continued and their ability to find work was compromised.

On May 24, 1932, VFW Post 1300 was instituted by Post 805 in East St. Louis to serve the veterans of Granite City. There were 58 charter members of the initial organization and 21 charter members of the Auxiliary that was formed on August 12 of the same year. Post