

Elvon R. Borst, manager of alumni programs at the mission, was impressed when she heard the group perform recently at a church in the Bronx.

"It seems to me that the men really try to deliver a message of encouragement and hope," she said.

Mr. Macklin serves as the group's coordinator, arranging four or five performances a month. Some churches have been particularly welcoming, impressed with their music and their message.

"Everyone," Mr. Macklin said, "deserves a second chance."

Two years ago, Mr. Walker, at 39 the youngest of the six members, was using large amounts of crack cocaine. His awakening came, he said, when he was shoved into a van in Manhattan with a bag over his head. The details, he said, are vague because he was high on crack. The next thing he remembers was a bright light shining through the bag into his eyes, he said. It was the police.

Mr. Walker eventually found his way to the Bowery Mission. "This has helped me stay clean, helped me develop a relationship with God," he said.

Mr. Ogarra, 49, who was born and raised in Brooklyn, joined the Army to escape living on the streets. He was stationed in Kansas at Fort Riley, but before long he was back to his old ways—using crack and cocaine and abusing alcohol.

After he was discharged from the Army he moved back to Brooklyn. "I took the habit with me," Mr. Ogarra said.

His addictions kept his life in chaos, preventing him from holding a steady job, and leading to the breakup of his marriage. In 2005, he said, he stood on a Long Island Rail Road platform on Atlantic Avenue and thought about killing himself. But something stopped him, he said, and someone who spotted him called the police. An officer suggested he seek help at the Bowery Mission.

"I was just mixed up," Mr. Ogarra said. "I drank many years away. I did many things. I had no direction, no drive and no hope."

The mission has kept him free of drugs, and the musical group has given him a more hopeful view of life. He now lives in Washington Heights and has a job with U.S. Security Associates, a nationwide security firm.

"It's a godsend I got here," Mr. Ogarra said. "I've learned to trust in my faith. It's to give up I would be lost."

A tear rolled down Mr. Ogarra's right cheek as he spoke. But as the six men talked about their lives and prepared for another singing performance, there were plenty of jokes and laughter, too. "We're kind of like a family," Mr. Macklin said.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN R. HOGNESS

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2007

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, the City of Seattle and our Nation recently lost one of the great leaders in the field of medicine, Dr. John R. Hogness, a friend, colleague, and constituent. Dr. Hogness contributed to the common good throughout his 85 years of life.

John wasn't merely a community asset, although he was that; John was a national treasure and we shall miss him.

Dr. Hogness served with distinction as the first president of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences.

Under John's leadership, the Institute grew to become a trusted, independent voice, at

times courageous, at times bold, but always fair and forward thinking. The high standards Dr. Hogness applied to himself always became trademarks of the organizations he led. And he led some of America's best institutions, including the University of Washington.

Dr. John Hogness served as a president of the University of Washington, dean of the medical school, and vice president for medical affairs. The UW is an internationally acclaimed institution today, in part, because of the significant contributions made by Dr. John Hogness.

He never forgot his roots as a medical doctor and never forgot that medicine is about healing the pain and suffering of people.

Throughout his distinguished career, John believed that academia had a role and responsibility to champion the common good, and so Dr. Hogness long advocated for a national health plan because he believed that everyone had a right to receive medical treatment.

John was just as comfortable filling in for a rural medical doctor in Omak who wanted to take a vacation as he was creating a new department of bioengineering at the University of Washington. Of course, he excelled at both, drawing on his intellect, sense of humor, modesty and commitment to public service.

While this may not be your stereotypical academic, it defines Dr. John Hogness. From time to time, John might have been out of step with the status quo, but he was never out of touch with the people medicine was intended to help, or the medical advances that could save more lives and ease more suffering.

John once remarked that he was most proud of his role in creating an innovative regional medical education program serving Alaska, Washington, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. Medical students attend the University of Washington's School of Medicine, the only medical school in the five states, but the young doctors intern in all five states.

It makes the rural practice of medicine real to young doctors and reality to rural communities throughout the region.

The long list of achievements can be summed up simply by knowing that Dr. John Hogness did so much for so many.

Rather than mourn his passing, I hope that we celebrate the life of Dr. John Hogness by remembering he was an intellectual giant who never forgot how to make house calls.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SAMMIE OLKINETZKY

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2007

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor one of Oklahoma's genuine treasures, Ms. Sammie Olkinetzky, who recently observed her 50th anniversary as a church choir director.

Through her service as a choir director, hundreds of Oklahomans were encouraged to develop their singing abilities, utilize their gifts to entertain others, and most importantly, express praise to God through their talents.

Ms. Olkinetzky was born and raised in Ada, Oklahoma. She attended the University of Oklahoma and received a master's degree in music education.

Her first appointment as a choir director came in 1957 to Trinity Lutheran Church in

Norman. While at Trinity, Ms. Olkinetzky had the opportunity to lead two children's choirs, the St. Timothy Choir and the Bach Choir, as well as a choir for adult church members. In 1963, Ms. Olkinetzky served as a dual choir director to both Trinity Lutheran Church and University Lutheran Church, which had recently partnered their choir with the Trinity congregation.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Sammie Olkinetzky for her fifty years of service. She has spent decades enriching the cultural and spiritual life of residents in the fourth district. I want to thank Ms. Olkinetzky for all of her contributions to the state of Oklahoma.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID F. DUNHAM

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2007

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of David F. Dunham who has retired after 35 years of public service with the Social Security Administration.

Mr. Dunham began working with the United States Postal Service in 1971 while attending the University of Massachusetts-Lowell. In 1972 he began work with the Social Security Administration at the Western Program Service Center. Later that year he transferred to Worcester, Massachusetts as a Claims Representative. He continued working in the Worcester area until his retirement. He was promoted to Operations Supervisor in 1984.

In addition to his work as Operations Supervisor, Mr. Dunham is recognized as one of the most gifted and talented instructors in the Boston Region. He taught numerous Service Representative and Claims Representative classes and many of his students are now successful Social Security Administration employees and supervisors assigned throughout New England.

During his years of hard work, Mr. Dunham has come to exemplify public service. This spirit can be seen outside of his professional life as well. Mr. Dunham has participated in several local motorcycle rides for charity and is involved with activities and outreach programs with his church. It is a great pleasure to offer him my sincere congratulations for his accomplishments and retirement.

Madam Speaker, I am certain that the entire House of Representatives joins me in congratulating David Dunham for his outstanding service with the Social Security Administration and in wishing him a happy and healthy retirement with his partner Rick, his daughter Jerusha, and son-in-law Sean.

RECOGNIZING THE RECREATIONAL BOATING COMMUNITY AND THE BOATING INDUSTRY OF THE UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. LINDA T. SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Ms. SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 505, recognizing the

contributions of the recreational boating community and the boating industry to the prosperity of the United States. This resolution, introduced by my colleague RON KLEIN, is an important way to highlight the vital role that the boating industry plays in the U.S. economy: it generates more than \$39,000,000,000 annually as it provides 380,000 American jobs.

However, I also rise to draw the House's attention to the serious problem of propeller injuries associated with recreational boating. A typical three blade propeller running at 3,200 rpm can inflict 9,600 impacts on the human body in just one minute, and a 13-inch blade can travel from head to toe on a person of average height in less than one tenth of a second. Given the speed at which these propellers turn, it is no surprise that propeller injuries frequently result in dismemberment and death.

According to the United States Coast Guard Annual Boating Statistics Reports, there were 239 accidents involving propellers in 2005 alone. Thirty-one of these injuries were fatal, and the rest were typically very severe. Sadly, the number of propeller accidents may even be larger than the report describes. The Coast Guard acknowledges that many boating accidents go unreported, either because victims are unaware of regulations requiring them to report or because the trauma of an accident leaves them little time to think about reporting.

I commend the efforts of the brave men and women of the U.S. Coast Guard, but I recognize that they lack the resources or manpower to maintain accurate records of recreational boating accidents. A 1992 study carried out by Johns Hopkins University found that, compared to the average one hundred propeller-related accidents reported by the Coast Guard; each year between 1976 and 1990, the actual number may have been closer to 2,000 to 3,000 per year.

As we rise to honor the contributions of the recreational boating community, we must also commit to doing more to protect the members of that community. We must pay special attention to children and young adults, the boating community's most vulnerable members, who sustain 40 percent of all propeller injuries.

When considering how we might reduce propeller injuries, one potential area of improvement lies in the make-up of the National Boating Safety Advisory Council (NBSAC), which consults with the U.S. Coast Guard in setting federal regulations. Ensuring that a sufficient portion of the NBSAC membership has no direct or indirect financial ties to the boating industry would be a step toward ensuring the airing of a diversity of views and improving the efficacy of the consultations and resulting federal regulations.

I invite my colleagues to take this opportunity to learn more about propeller injuries and to consider how we might work together to minimize them while continuing to support this vital industry.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
ENVIRONMENT AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. PAUL W. HODES

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House of the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2643) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes:

Mr. HODES. Madam Chairman, I rise today to urge my colleagues to vote against Rep. LAMBORN's amendment to the Interior-Environment Appropriations bill which would slash the funding for the National Endowment of the Arts. The NEA has suffered deep cuts over the last decade. It is time for a new direction in supporting the arts in America.

America's global competitiveness relies on a creative, thoughtful citizenry, and funding the NEA has been proven to produce just that by funding artists, arts organizations and arts education.

Students with an education rich in the arts have better grade point averages in core academic subjects, score better on standardized tests, and have lower drop-out rates than students without arts education.

Creative thinkers are our innovators, our visionaries, and our leaders. Investing in their development is an American priority.

Support for the arts means supporting good business. The arts industry: Supports 5.7 million full-time jobs; generates \$104.2 billion in household income; generates \$7.9 billion in local government revenue; generates \$9.1 billion in State government revenue; and generates \$12.6 billion in Federal income tax.

But beyond all the statistics demonstrating the importance of the arts in education and in our economy is the clear reality that money spent supporting the arts is a crucial investment in America's lasting legacy. For long after we are gone our artistic creation will survive.

This Amendment is a shortsighted attempt to strangle an agency that does amazing work for the people of this country. I know firsthand what is done with the few dollars awarded through the NEA.

I stand today to ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to reject this amendment and fund the NEA, which encourages creative thinking and the creative economy.

SUPPORTING HOME OWNERSHIP
AND RESPONSIBLE LENDING

SPEECH OF

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2007

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 526, supporting home ownership and responsible lending.

A recent study released by the Center of Responsible Lending reveals 2.2 million

subprime home loans made in recent years have already failed or will end in foreclosure this year at a cost of 164 billion to consumers.

Despite low interest rates and a favorable economic environment during the past several years, the subprime market has experienced record high foreclosure rates. In 2006 alone there were more than 1.2 million foreclosures, a 42 percent increase from 2005. I am sad to report that my home state of Ohio has one of the highest foreclosure rates in the nation.

As you may know a number of factors drive sub prime foreclosures, including adjustable rate mortgages with steep built-in rate and payment increases, prepayment penalties, limited income documentation, and no escrow for taxes and insurance. Often individuals who are eligible for prime rates are steered into accepting high-cost subprime mortgage rates without fully understanding the risks of the mortgage products they choose. People are being manipulated by aggressive mortgage brokers and lending firms into taking subprime rates. It is our responsibility to keep them from being exploited.

Unfortunately many of these individuals are African Americans in urban areas, targeted by lending firms with these high-cost loans. In the last several years, poor neighborhoods with large minority populations like Cleveland, Chicago, Philadelphia and Atlanta have experienced a sharp rise in foreclosures, in some cases more than doubling over the past decade. In Cuyahoga County alone, where Cleveland is located, the foreclosure rate is 17 percent, 12 percent higher than the national average.

Madam Speaker, we must put an end to these practices that are hurting consumers and prohibiting them from achieving the American dream of home ownership. I urge my colleagues to support my Predatory Mortgage Lending Practices Reduction Act, H.R. 2061 and H. Res. 546 so we may prevent predatory lending and ensure the fiscal security of the American people.

FOREIGN INVESTMENT AND
NATIONAL SECURITY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2007

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the Senate's revision of what was a solid, balanced bill, H.R. 556, the "Foreign Investment and National Security Act of 2007." This bill fails to make a number of very much needed reforms to the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States ("CFIUS"). I am disappointed that the legislation, passed by the Senate and considered today, makes changes to the bill originally passed by the House, that significantly weaken the legislation.

As originally passed by the House, H.R. 556 ensured that the Director of National Intelligence (DNI) is given adequate time to conduct a thorough analysis of proposed transactions. If the DNI identified complex issues that could not be resolved within that initial 30-day review, the transaction would be sent to a 45-day investigation. These intelligence reviews were missing during the Dubai Ports debacle last year and are absolutely vital to our