

Today, the Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association's membership spans Wisconsin and includes committees covering cutting-edge issues ranging from Homeland Security to Information Technology. And while the issues of the day may seem a far cry from those the Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association dealt with 100 years ago, the call to tirelessly safeguard the lives and property of area citizens remains the same for the members of the Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association. Now, more than ever, our state is comforted by the knowledge that such citizens are prepared to lead in protecting our communities.

I wholeheartedly congratulate the Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association for 100 years of protecting our communities and recognize its continuing commitment to excellence.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE EUGENE
BARRETT, JR.

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 27, 2007

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Eugene Barrett, Jr., who died on July 20, 2007.

A former Wyandotte County, KS Treasurer, Eugene Barrett, Jr., was born on January 26, 1930, to Eugene and Margaret Barrett of Kansas City, KS. A lifelong Kansas City resident, he served in the Korean War, after which he became a part of the local banking community at Kaw Valley State Bank, served as Wyandotte County Treasurer, and was appointed Kansas State Banking Commissioner by Governor John Carlin, a post he held from 1984 to 1987. With a long range vision for the future of Wyandotte County, he donated his time and service to many organizations, a few of which included the Wyandotte County Planning Commission, the Wyandotte County Parks Foundation Board, and the Wyandotte County 4-H Fair Board. He also served as a member of the Donnelly College Board of Trustees. Joined by his family, he also had a lifelong affiliation with the Sister Servants of Mary.

Eugene Barrett, Jr., was preceded in death by his loving wife of 42 years, Betty. He is survived by his five children: daughter Mary and husband Gary Batson; daughter Jenny Scheve; son Mike and wife Lori; son Paul and wife Erin; and son Gene and wife Anna, all of the Kansas City area. Additionally, he is survived by a sister, Sally and her husband Jim Sanders, of Lenexa, KS, 13 grandchildren, one great grandchild, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Madam Speaker, in the words of his family, Eugene Barrett, Jr., lived a meaningful and eventful life filled with loving family, and many friends will miss him dearly. I commend him for his service to our community and our state and appreciate this opportunity to pay tribute to him before the full U.S. House of Representatives.

TO EXTEND THE DESIGNATION OF LIBERIA UNDER SECTION 244 OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT SO THAT LIBERIANS CAN CONTINUE TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 27, 2007

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I am honored to rise in support of H.R. 3123, which addresses the plight of displaced Liberian nationals, a group of people that is of great regional and global importance. H.R. 3123 recognizes the importance of extending the designation of Liberia under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act. I thank the gentleman from Rhode Island, Mr. KENNEDY, for excellent work in bringing this legislation forward.

H.R. 3123 extends the designation of Liberian refugees under section 244(b)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act through September 30, 2008 and expands the designation of Liberia under the Immigration and Nationality Act as a country whose nationals are eligible for temporary protected status and work authorization in the United States. In addition, H.R. 3123 sets forth eligibility requirements for Liberian nationals or persons having no nationality whose last habitual residence was Liberia.

Madam Speaker, let us remember that from 1989 to 1996 the Liberian civil war claimed the lives of more than 200,000 Liberians and further displaced a million others into refugee camps in neighboring and distant countries, including our own. The United States and other countries have provided relief to Liberians. By supporting this bill we can show our affection and commitment to people of Liberia.

The United States has a historical connection to all Liberians, but we also have a moral responsibility to end the killings and mass displacement of innocent citizens. The termination of TPS designation of Liberia would place many Liberians that fled to our country for refuge at risk of being returned prematurely.

Madam Speaker, the elimination of TPS designation means that on October 2, 2007, former TPS beneficiaries will return to the same immigration status they maintained before registering for TPS, or to any other status they may have acquired while registered for Temporary Protection Status. Accordingly, if an individual did not have lawful immigration status at the time of receiving TPS benefits, and did not obtain any other status during the TPS designation period, he or she will revert to being without lawful status. Such individuals are expected to depart the United States on or before October 1, 2007. Those who do not comply with this requirement may be subject to removal.

The Liberian people living in our country deserve better treatment and protection than the current Immigration and Nationality Act can afford. Congress needs to permit the extension of section 244 which enables the people to re-register for temporary protection status and work authorization.

Let us give the Liberian people the respect and protection they need by supporting H.R. 3123.

THE SECOND CHANCE ACT OF 2007

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 27, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about the Second Chance Act which provides assistance to individuals who have been incarcerated, including the expungement of their records.

Individuals released from prison have no chance of becoming productive members of society because their criminal records prevent employers from considering them for jobs. This leads many of them to return to lives of crime. In an effort to change the dynamic of recidivism, we must remove barriers to employment—particularly criminal records—which hang over the heads of ex-offenders, even those who have been rehabilitated.

The Second Chance Act allocates \$360 million towards programs that would help the ex-offenders adjust to their new environment after their release from prison. Focusing on four different areas: employment, housing, access to health services and families, it would provide a secure setting for the individual and make the transition easier, which would reduce the rate of recidivism.

Almost two thirds of newly discharged individuals return to their lives of crime within 3 years of their release. This signifies a great number of crimes being committed that could have prevented through effective programs, which is one of the components of this legislation. Billions of dollars are being wasted in the criminal justice system mostly because of the prosecutions of repeat offenders.

If we do not take the necessary actions to help these individuals, they will be trapped in the cycle of recidivism. We must take action to help them break the cycle.

TRIBUTE TO FOSTER TOWNSHIP

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 27, 2007

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Foster Township in Madison County, IL, upon her sesquicentennial. Foster Township includes all of town 6 range 9 west. A celebration will be held in Fosterburg, IL, on August 18 and 19, 2007 to celebrate this special occasion.

Though impossible to know for certain who the first settlers of the township were, legend is that Granny McAfee and her family settled in section 28 in 1816. On October 11, 1820 the first known land purchases were recorded and the land was purchased directly from the United States Government by five individuals. Early settlers included the Beemans, Decks, Edwards, Reynolds, Waggoners, Hamiltons, Gallops, Kyles, Rhodes, Fosters, Woods, Shorts, Doolings, Sherfys, Dillons, Crowders, Eatons, Bevills, Wilsons, Chandlers, Jinkinsons, Browns, Thompsons, Warners, Lobbings, and Titchenals.

As the township was located along the road between Alton and Springfield, it often served as a stage relay station for travelers. President Abraham Lincoln was one such traveler who

visited Foster Township staying at both the Clayton House and the Foster Inn.

I am pleased to congratulate the citizens of Foster Township on this special occasion. I thank them for their contributions to this great nation. May God bless Foster Township!

IN HONOR OF THE HOMECOMING OF LANCE CORPORAL MATHEW LIBERTO OF FLEMINGTON, NEW JERSEY

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 27, 2007

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share in the celebration of LCpl Mathew Liberto's homecoming. Mat serves honorably with the 3rd Battalion, 14th Marines, 4th Marine Division out of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He has just returned from a deployment to Al-Qaim and a forward-operating base near Waleed on the Syrian border.

Today, his employer, New Jersey Manufacturers Insurance Company (NJM) is officially welcoming Mat home with all the pomp and circumstance deserved by a great American hero. He will be honored for his service along with his fellow employee, Joseph Bethea of Morrisville, Pennsylvania, a National Guard Flight Operations Sergeant with the 150th General Support Aviation Battalion of the 42nd Infantry Division. Joe also recently returned from deployment to Iraq.

I commend these gentlemen for their commitment to the ideals of freedom and liberty and to the sacrifices they have made that make it possible for those ideals to exist in our lives today. I also commend New Jersey Manufacturers Insurance Company, which is today treating these men to a hero's welcome. Not only did the employees of NJM take the time to correspond regularly with their deployed colleagues, they also sent them and their units care packages. This compassion and community is the strength of our national fabric, and it is an honor to share their story for posterity.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. CHARLIE MCFARLAND

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 27, 2007

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize Dr. Charlie McFarland for being honored with a President's Call to Service Award from the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation.

The award, presented by former quarterback and Heisman Trophy winner Danny Wuerffel, honors Dr. McFarland's years of volunteer service. The majority of his efforts have been dedicated to the Special Olympics program which he not only created for Okaloosa County but helped begin for the State of Florida and even the Nation.

McFarland took his first group of disabled students to Special Olympics games in South Carolina in 1969. After seeing how beneficial the program was for that first group of 20 students, the school district applied for a charter from the Kennedy Foundation for the State of Florida. The charter was approved and in 1970 Florida held its first games, with 20 counties participating.

Over the years, McFarland has taken every opportunity to raise greater awareness of the program and raise much needed funds for it. He has convinced such big-name artists as Kenny Rogers, Alabama, Reba McEntire, Glen Campbell, the Oak Ridge Boys and the late Lewis Gizzard to perform or support the local program, has successfully lobbied NASA and Congress to allow Col. Dick Covey to take the Special Olympics flag on the space shuttle *Discovery*, and has helped the special education Silver Sand School obtain both a new track and pool.

In 1993, Dr. McFarland was named one of the charter members of the Florida Special Olympics Hall of Fame, and has kept serving with the Special Olympics even after he retired as an educator in 1995.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to honor Dr. Charlie McFarland for his tireless contributions to the Special Olympics program.

HONORING JOHN D. SEAMAN, JR., OF ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 27, 2007

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize MSgt. John D. Seaman, Jr., from St. Petersburg, Florida. The son of Shirley and John Seaman of Inverness, Florida, Sergeant Seaman was born in Greenwich, Connecticut on July 23, 1959, and moved to St. Petersburg, Florida, in July 1964. He attended schools in St. Petersburg, as well as Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina, while his father was stationed in the United States Coast Guard.

A 1977 graduate of Northeast High School in St. Petersburg, Sergeant Seaman worked and attended junior college for several years before enlisting in the Air Force in 1982. In 1984, Sergeant Seaman transferred to the Florida Air National Guard and joined the 290th Combat Communications Squadron, where he was assigned as a Satellite Communications Technician. Since then he has held numerous communications positions and been promoted throughout the ranks of the Florida Guard.

Throughout his military career, Sergeant Seaman has played an important role in many of the conflicts in which the United States military has taken part. He was in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, during Operation Desert Storm, redesigned the communications architecture required for the invasion of Afghanistan, and was deployed to the Philippines for the start of Operation Enduring Freedom. Today Sergeant Seaman serves as the Transmissions Branch Superintendent assigned to the 290th Joint Communications Support Squadron, MacDill AFB, Florida.

A devoted family man, Sergeant Seaman is married to the former Kathleen R. Felton of Clifton, New Jersey, and they have two sons, John David and Michael Robert. A volunteer in his community, Sergeant Seaman is also an assistant coach for AA minor league baseball for North East Little League.

Madam Speaker, it is soldiers like MSgt. John Seaman, Jr., who volunteer to protect the freedoms that all Americans hold dear to their hearts. While brave men and women like John serve in the name of freedom and liberty, his family, friends and loved ones should know that this Congress will never forget his sacrifice and commitment.