

Health Cooperative, as well as two of his proudest accomplishments, *Rites of Passage: A Memoir of the Sixties* in Seattle and *The National Trust Guide: Seattle*.

In 1997, he and local historian Paul Dorpat, a dear friend and colleague from their days together at the Helix, tossed around the idea of publishing an encyclopedia of King County history. A book of this size and scope had not been published since Clarence Bagley's tome, written more than 70 years before. Worried that such a venture might prove to be too unwieldy, Walt's wife, Marie, suggested that an online encyclopedia would be a more suitable way to keep and maintain the historical record. Work soon began, and the rest is history . . . or shall we say, HistoryLink.

MAKING HISTORY

When HistoryLink launched in 1998, it was the first encyclopedia of community history created expressly for the Internet—an accomplishment that made Walt exceedingly proud. But being the first meant blazing trails where no historians had gone before, not only in designing and organizing the online encyclopedia, but also in competing for funding in a dot-com world. Walt always referred to our efforts as "venture socialism."

Helped along by a hand-picked staff—many of whom still write, edit, and contribute to the site—as well as by a topnotch board of trustees, HistoryLink.org grew to become a success, and in 2003 expanded its coverage statewide. Today it receives more than four million hits a month. It is read by students, teachers, journalists, genealogists, history buffs, and anybody who wants to know more about the people and events that shaped Washington's growth and development.

Besides penning some of HistoryLink's books, Walt wrote a large number of essays and editorials on topics that appealed to his interests, including state politics, political shifts, mayoral transitions, municipal ownership, civil violence, Seattle's neighborhoods, streetcars, monorails, aviation, the Space Needle, and even flying saucers. With such a wealth of Walt's words and knowledge and insight contained in our site, we here at HistoryLink.org take comfort in the fact that as we continue to grow and expand our content, we will never lose his voice—even though we have lost a colleague, a mentor, and most of all, our friend.

COMMENDING THE 1ST BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM/34TH INFANTRY DIVISION OF THE MINNESOTA NATIONAL GUARD

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 1, 2007

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, today I rise strong support of H. Con. Res. 185. I join the gentleman from Minnesota, Mr. WALZ in offering this resolution. Our entire State joins together in welcoming home the 2,600 members of the Minnesota National Guard's 1st Brigade Combat Team, 34th Infantry Division who recently returned from Iraq.

During the 22-month deployment of the 1/34th BCT, these courageous citizen soldiers served Minnesota and our Nation with honor and dignity. Their service frequently put them in harm's way, and we are grateful for their safe return to their families. Since the war in Iraq began our friends, families and neighbors

who serve in the National Guard and Reserves have seen their dual roles as citizen soldiers expand as they have been called to serve in deployments across the world even as they continue the most important mission of all, protecting us in our communities here at home.

The men and women of the 1/34th have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to our country—a commitment to serve and a willingness to sacrifice in combat operations. Their 22-month activation in Iraq was the longest tour of any military unit to have served in Iraq thus far. These Minnesota soldiers have completed some of the most grueling combat assignments. We should also pause to remember the brave members of this unit who made the ultimate sacrifice during their deployment. Their service and sacrifice will never be forgotten.

My office stands ready to assist all military personnel and their families. I believe strongly that our Federal Government must keep its promise to all those who have served. Providing the necessary healthcare, education, and disability benefits to meet the needs of our veterans is both a responsibly and a moral obligation.

Regardless of where individuals stand on the issues that face this Nation in Iraq we all must continue to support the men and women who volunteer to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces all around the world.

As we welcome home members of the 1/34th, we must also keep in our thoughts and prayers the many active duty military personnel, Reservists and Minnesota Guard members who continue to serve in harm's way in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kosovo, and elsewhere around the world. I commend each and every one of them for their strength, courage and dedication.

I would like to thank my colleague from Minnesota, Mr. WALZ, for bringing this important resolution to the House floor, and for his service to this country. I commend members of the Minnesota National Guard's 1st Brigade Combat Team, 34th Infantry Division.

TAIWAN PLANE SALES

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2007

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, despite recent aggressive behavior from China, Taiwan's democracy has continued to grow and flourish. I am pleased that this House can come together today in support of Taiwan.

China's industrial buildup in the last decade has been unprecedented. While Chinese citizens have been taking advantage of their increased economic freedom, the Chinese government has been using this economic growth to build up their military and position new and dangerous weapons along the Taiwan Strait.

The Taiwanese request to purchase 66 F-16 fighter planes will assist them in countering the growing threat of Chinese militarism. These weapons will allow the Taiwanese to balance the threat of hundreds of Chinese fighters and bombers that are stationed just on the other side of the Strait.

We have always stood by our friends in Taiwan and today we call on the President to en-

sure that that relationship stays as strong as ever. This House supports protecting the freedom of the Taiwanese people. Today, Taiwan is proof that a nation can successfully move from one-party rule to democracy and maintain its dynamic economy. I am hopeful that Chinese citizens can one day experience the same liberty as their counterparts in Taiwan.

WHY INTEGRATION MATTERS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce two stories written in the Washington Post on September 25, 2007 entitled, "A Little Rock Reminder" and "The Legacy of Little Rock", in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the integration of the school system of Little Rock, AR, by a brave group of Black children who came to be known as "The Little Rock Nine".

Integration has been a long and difficult process here in the United States. Only 50 years have passed since President Dwight Eisenhower decided to send soldiers to protect and defend the newly acquired rights of nine Black students to go to a previously all White school. Those brave Black students who endured the difficulties of starting the process of desegregation in schools in 1957 should be remembered and appreciated today, on the anniversary, and everyday.

It has been proven that integration is a key factor in the success of our society. A school where all races and nationalities work together is giving their students more than classes; they are teaching them the correct way to live, in harmony with the world. In addition it has been proven that an integrated learning environment leads to greater academic success.

Our society today still has a long way to go but it is a much healthier one than 50 years ago. These children were brave enough to understand what their parents and other leaders of their community knew—that they deserve the same rights as the next one; they too are citizens of the United States and all it represents. Their efforts need to be commended.

[From the Washington Post, Sept. 25, 2007]

A LITTLE ROCK REMINDER: NINE PIONEERS SHOWED WHY SCHOOL INTEGRATION MATTERS

(By Juan Williams)

Fifty years ago this week, President Dwight Eisenhower risked igniting the second U.S. civil war by sending 1,000 American soldiers into a Southern city. The troops, with bayonets at the end of their rifles, provided protection for nine black students trying to get into Little Rock's Central High School. Until the soldiers arrived, the black teenagers had been kept out by mobs and the Arkansas National Guard, in defiance of the Supreme Court's 1954 ruling ending school segregation.

The black children involved became the leading edge of a social experiment. Their lives offer answers to the question of what happens to black children who attend integrated schools, a question underscored by the recent Supreme Court ruling that voluntary school integration plans in Louisville and Seattle are unconstitutional.

The June decision said a focus on mixing students based on their skin color violates every student's right to be judged as an individual without regard to race. The ruling

confirmed a political reality: America long ago lost its appetite for doing whatever it takes—busing, magnet schools, court orders—to integrate schools. The level of segregation in U.S. public schools has been growing since 1988, reversing the trend toward integration triggered by Brown v. Board of Education.

The movement away from school integration is glaring. The Civil Rights Project found in 2003 that the nation's 27 biggest school districts were "overwhelmingly" segregated with black and Latino students. Nationwide today, almost half of black and Latino children are in schools where less than 10 percent of the students are white. Those essentially segregated schools have a large percentage of low-income families and, according to researchers, "difficulty retaining highly qualified teachers." Meanwhile, the average white student attends a school that is 80 percent white and far more affluent than the schools for minority students.

This trend toward isolation of poor and minority students has consequences—half of black and Latino students now drop out of high school.

Integrated schools benefit students, especially minorities. Research on the long-term outcomes of black and Latino students attending integrated schools indicates that those students "complete more years of education, earn higher degrees and major in more varied occupations than graduates of all-black schools."

That conclusion is reflected in the lives of the Little Rock Nine, who represent the black middle class that grew rapidly as better schools became open to black people during the 1960s and '70s.

Ernest Green, 65, who became the first black student to graduate from Central High, is the most prominent of the nine. He earned a master's degree in sociology and worked in the Carter and Clinton administrations. He is director of public finance in Washington for Lehman Brothers.

Melba Pattillo Beals, 65, chairs the African American history department at Dominican University in River Forest, IL, and wrote an award-winning book about her experiences at Central High; Elizabeth Eckford, 65, is a probation officer in Arkansas; Gloria Ray Karlmark, 64, moved to Sweden to work for IBM and later founded and edited the magazine *Computers in Industry*; Carlotta Walls LaNier, 64, started a real estate company in Colorado; Terrence Roberts, 65, is a psychologist in California; Jefferson Thomas, 64, fought in Vietnam and worked in government in Ohio for nearly 30 years; Minniejean Brown Trickey, 66, worked in the Clinton administration and is a visiting writer at Arkansas State University; and Thelma Mothershead Wair, 66, became a teacher.

Part of their success comes from their ability to mix easily with black and white people and to comfortably join the social and professional networks that segregation kept from black people. In fact, most of the nine worked in mostly white organizations. And four of the nine married white people (three black women married white men, and one black man married a white woman).

In her book "Turn Away Thy Son," Arkansas native Elizabeth Jacoway notes that the nine never take a group picture with white spouses or mixed-race children. Jacoway believes they don't want to take away from black pride in their achievement or reignite segregationist fears about interracial sex.

Terrence Roberts, who went on to become a psychology professor, thinks "fear of black people in the family" is still a driving force pulling Americans away from integrated schools. Ernest Green, whose first wife was white, calls it the "zipper issue. . . sex and race are highly combustible."

The interracial daughter of Minniejean Brown Trickey, Spirit Trickey, works as a Park Service tour guide at a memorial to the events at Central High. She says visitors regularly ask why so many of the nine broke the taboo against interracial marriage.

"My answer is that the Little Rock Nine followed the principles of nonviolence," she said. "They married who they fell in love with. But it is telling that so many people ask about it. It tells me where we are today."

[From the Washington Post, Sept. 25, 2007]
THE LEGACY OF LITTLE ROCK: FIFTY YEARS AGO, HE AND 8 OTHERS BECAME THE FACES OF INTEGRATION. NOW HE IS A SIGN OF ITS SUCCESS.

(By Avis Thomas-Lester)

Ernest G. Green Jr. sees much of the world now from a top floor corner office on K Street, just blocks from the White House and a very long way from where he started.

His BlackBerry holds the phone numbers of powerful men: former president Bill Clinton; Robert L. Johnson, founder of Black Entertainment Television and co-owner of the Charlotte Bobcats; former ambassador Andrew Young; and three candidates for president of the United States.

He spends his days negotiating multi-million-dollar deals as managing director of public finance for Wall Street stalwart Lehman Brothers with clients including the City of New York and the State of Connecticut. He has a big house in Northwest Washington, "a beautiful wife, three wonderful kids" and a lot of gratitude for the circumstances that catapulted him from segregated Little Rock into U.S. history as one of nine students to integrate Central High School 50 years ago today.

"It has been a tremendous boost for me," said Green, who turned 66 on Saturday. "It provided me with opportunities I never would have otherwise had. I had a tremendous window into the last half of 20th century."

Green returned to his home town this weekend for events commemorating the 50th anniversary of the desegregation of Central High. Five decades ago, Green and eight other students were escorted into the school by the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division under orders from President Dwight Eisenhower after Gov. Orval Faubus used the state's National Guard to block the integration effort.

In the year that followed, Green and the others, who came to be known as the Little Rock Nine, were tripped on the stairs, attacked in the halls and pushed out of lunchroom lines. Teachers and administrators largely ignored them. The few white students who befriended them were subjected to ill treatment as well.

"Clearly, none of us anticipated that it would be as difficult as it was," said Green, the first of the nine to graduate. "But once we got there, all nine of us knew how important it was to stay. Backing down was not an option."

His story is a testament to the potential of forced integration, a remedy widely debated now as many urban school districts become resegregated. Green said people miss out when they don't mingle with those who are different from themselves. "We need to make sure children understand that they are more similar than different."

Green never set out to become an icon of the civil rights movement, with a movie made of his life and a congressional medal to his name. What he did, he said, was simply step out of his comfort zone.

"Too many blacks today," he said, "opt for comfort over taking a chance that might change their lives. We have to work hard to break through our comforts."

Many wouldn't consider a childhood in the segregated South a comfortable place, but Green has fond memories of growing up at the corner of 21st and Pulaski. His father, Ernest Sr., who died when Green was 13, was a janitor at the post office; his mother, Lothaire, taught in Little Rock schools for 43 years.

He, his sister, Treopia, and his brother, Scott, learned about taking a stand from their mother. In the 1940s, she supported the efforts of black teacher Susie Morris, who, with NAACP Legal Defense Fund attorney Thurgood Marshall, sued the Little Rock schools, demanding equal pay. His mother opened their home to Marshall when he was in town working on the case.

Green grew up riding past the impressive edifice of Central High School, considered the best school in town. The name was stamped into the secondhand books that taught him U.S. history, algebra and chemistry. As a member of the marching band—he played tenor saxophone—at segregated Horace Mann High School, he had marched on Central's field.

"We didn't have a stadium, so the black schools played on the field one night and the white schools another," he recalled.

Green was 13 when the U.S. Supreme Court, acting on arguments by Marshall, outlawed school segregation in the Brown v. Board of Education case. Even so, many officials in Southern states vehemently refused to carry out the order.

No such sentiment was evident in Little Rock in 1957, which had a progressive reputation, Green said. Blacks owned businesses. There was a thriving black middle class. The public libraries and city buses were integrated, as was the University of Arkansas campus. Several Arkansas school districts had voluntarily integrated.

It was against this backdrop that the Little Rock school board decided to integrate.

"I heard about it on the radio that they were looking for students interested in going to Central," said Minniejean Brown Trickey, another of the Little Rock Nine. "It started off that there were 23 of us, but by the time we got to school that first day, there were only nine."

It was Green's idea to attend Central High, and his mother, like the other parents, supported the decision. "They had some idea of what it would do to change the opportunities for all the black folks in Little Rock if we were able to integrate the school," he said.

Green said they were all thunderstruck by the level of resistance.

"We didn't think there would be a confrontation," he said. "Orval Faubus was regarded as a progressive white Southerner. My mother had voted for him as governor. He didn't have an image of being a firebrand segregationist or racist."

On Sept. 4, the students were denied entry by guardsmen and racists yelling epithets. After the NAACP took the case to court, they were allowed in on Sept. 23 but had to leave early because of fears of violence. Two days later, with an escort from the 101st Airborne, they were admitted.

For four weeks, things were relatively quiet. Soldiers escorted the nine black students to class. Many avid segregationists kept their children at home.

"Once they saw we weren't leaving, they started to trickle back in," Green said. Soon, the harassment started.

As the only senior, Green was a prominent target.

"It seemed to me that one of the things that would drive them crazy was if I were to be successful," he recalled. "So I was determined to stick it out that whole year."

Each morning, the black students would gather at one of their homes or at the home

of Daisy Bates, the legendary Arkansas NAACP president, and her husband, L.C. Bates, founder of the Arkansas State Press, the state's leading black newspaper.

The hostility didn't subside until the day before Green's graduation.

"There were a number of white kids who got up the nerve to come over and congratulate me for getting through the year," he said.

The principal urged Green to take his diploma and go home without attending the commencement ceremony.

"Local authorities were afraid there would be some attempt to do physical harm to me, but I was convinced that I had angels looking over me," Green said. "I figured I had gone through [too much] not to enjoy the benefits of the service."

As it turned out, Martin Luther King Jr., who had gained prominence with the Montgomery bus boycott 2 years earlier, was in Arkansas.

"He came up the evening of the ceremony to sit with my mother, aunt and family," Green said. "I didn't know he was in the audience until after the ceremony was over."

The next five decades of Green's life have, in many ways, been defined by that year at Central High.

He devoted himself to civil rights causes. At Michigan State University, which he attended on a full scholarship, he became president of the school's NAACP chapter and often protested the policies of the university's president, John Hannah. Thirty years later, he learned that Hannah had personally arranged for his scholarship.

After earning bachelor's and master's degrees, Green moved to New York and worked with civil rights leaders A. Philip Randolph and Bayard Rustin to recruit minorities into the building trades. In 1977, he was tapped by President Jimmy Carter as assistant secretary of labor for employment and training. He later formed a minority consulting company with Alexis Herman, who would be named Clinton's labor secretary.

In 1987, capitalizing on the relationships he made in public service, he took a position with Lehman Brothers as an investment banker; his projects included underwriting municipal debt with governmental agencies and nonprofit organizations. Again, he drew on his experience at Central High.

"It made me a tougher negotiator, able to control my emotions and able to handle the ups and down of business and life," he said.

The years have brought proud moments: In 1999, Clinton awarded Green and the rest of the Little Rock Nine the Congressional Gold Medal. There have also been humbling times: In 2002, Green was sentenced to 90 days of home detention and given a \$10,000 fine for failing to declare and pay taxes on income he received as part of a planned business venture.

Today, he works passionately to help young people. He noted that last week, 50 years after he entered Central High, black activists were gathered in Jena, La., to protest the treatment of six black youths arrested after a racially tinged brawl.

"A lot of people don't realize," he said, "that there is still racial injustice in this country."

IN MEMORY OF HERBERT D. KATZ

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2007

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of south Flor-

ida philanthropist, prominent attorney, and real estate developer, Herbert D. Katz.

Mr. Katz was a well-known member of the community, involved with numerous causes and organizations. A longtime Hollywood and Fort Lauderdale resident, Mr. Katz graduated from Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania with a bachelor's degree in 1951, and Harvard Law School in 1954. From 1954–1957 he served in the U.S. Coast Guard, was appointed to be a member of the United States Holocaust Memorial in 1988 by President Reagan, was President of the Jewish Federation of Broward County from 1974–1976, and chaired the United Jewish Appeal's, UJA, Retirement Committee from 1986–1989.

A highly recognized donor to numerous causes, especially in the Jewish community, Mr. Katz went on to support and serve on the boards of many philanthropic organizations including the Israel Education Fund of UJA, American-Israel Public Affairs Committee, AIPAC, the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, the Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, and the American Friends of Hebrew University, just to name a few. He and his wife were instrumental in helping to finance the building in Davie, bearing their names, that houses the Jewish Federation of Broward County. They also established the coveted Herb and Ellie Katz Leadership Development Award, presented each year by the Jewish Federation of Broward County.

In addition to his wife Eleanor, Mr. Katz is survived by 5 children—Laura, Thomas, Sally, Walter and Daniel, and 8 grandchildren. This was a man whose presence will be greatly missed throughout south Florida.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ARMY CAPTAIN MARIA INES ORTIZ OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2007

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the bravery, compassion, and selflessness of U.S. Army Captain Maria Ines Ortiz, from Camden, New Jersey who was killed in Baghdad, Iraq on July 10, 2007. Captain Ortiz was assigned to the 28th Combat Support Hospital, 3rd Medical Command in Baghdad's "Green Zone." Her death marks the first combat related casualty of an army nurse since the Vietnam War.

Captain Ortiz was born in Camden, New Jersey but spent most of her childhood in Bayamon, Puerto Rico. Her career in army medicine began in 1991 when she enlisted in the United States Army Reserve. Captain Ortiz's first two years of active duty included service in Honduras, South Korea, and eventually Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington DC. These experiences helped to solidify her resolve to become a registered nurse, a goal she achieved in 1999, earning a degree in nursing from the University of Puerto Rico.

After subsequently being commissioned as an Army officer, Captain Ortiz worked as a dialysis nurse at Walter Reed for 2 years then served as chief nurse at the Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic for 18 months before being sent to Iraq last fall. She had a smile that lit up the

hallways and won the hearts of the medical staff in every hospital she worked. If a patient required extra attention, she worked late. If a colleague was feeling down, she was there to comfort and support that colleague.

Maria Iris Ortiz is a true hero in every sense of the word. She will be remembered for her exceptional devotion. Madam Speaker, I commend Captain Maria Iris Ortiz for her selflessness and courage in making the ultimate sacrifice to her country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2007

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, due to the passing of my father, on Monday, October 1, 2007 I missed rollcall vote nos. 924, 925 and 926. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on H. Con. Res. 185, H.R. 2276, and H.R. 3325.

ACKNOWLEDGING NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2007

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, In 1945, Congress enacted a law declaring the first week in October of each year as "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week," in order to educate the American public about issues related to disability and employment. From there, the week expanded into a month designated "National Disability Employment Awareness Month." And today, I am so pleased to acknowledge and praise those who work to further the necessary awareness of those individuals and American workers who live with a disability.

The American worker has enough to handle and manage as it is, but the employee who lives with a disability copes with other barriers many of us will never experience. I commend the work these groups are doing to ensure these individuals, completely capable of employment, find that employment and are not discriminated against. However, there is much work to do. The employment rate of working age people with disabilities remains only half that of people without disabilities. These numbers are far too low and this population has for far too long been a group unable to rise above the employment and earnings gaps. There is a benefit to us all for working toward inclusion of more and more disabled workers. Again, I am pleased to celebrate "National Disability Employment Awareness Month" this October and will continue my ongoing efforts in Congress to ensure equality for all, making the barriers facing individuals with disabilities once and for all a thing of the past.