

where you can find the world's oldest McDonald's and the site of the first Taco Bell eatery.

Fifty years since its incorporation in 1956, Downey has grown to a population of over 110,000 residents. The city serves as a hub for business, with California Business Magazine recently rating Downey in the top 25 percent of "100 Cities To Do Business In." Downey has made many outstanding contributions to the region, and was a leader in the founding of the Gateway Cities Council of Governments. This partnership, comprised of 27 cities in Southeast Los Angeles County, effectively works to address the region's challenges, particularly with respect to transportation planning and economic development.

The city of Downey recently hosted a fun-filled 50th anniversary celebration for its residents. The "Birthday Bash," which featured tunes honoring its hometown singing duo "The Carpenters," marked another milestone in the rich history of this city that I am so proud to represent. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Downey's first 50 years as this prosperous city looks toward its "Future Unlimited."

IN RECOGNITION OF LITTLE MISSIONARY'S DAY NURSERY ON THE OCCASION OF ITS THIRD ANNUAL SARA CURRY BENEFIT AWARDS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Little Missionary's Day Nursery, the oldest continuously operating non-sectarian school in New York City. Founded in 1896 by Miss Sara Curry, the Little Missionary's Day Nursery is dedicated to providing affordable day care in a warm, nurturing environment in which children of diverse socioeconomic, ethnic and religious backgrounds are encouraged to take their first steps in embracing lives inspired by the values of a sound and well-rounded education and a spirit of sharing and caring.

The Little Missionary's Day Nursery has remained true to the progressive dream of its visionary founder, Sara Curry, a remarkable, energetic, and accomplished woman who dedicated her life to improving conditions for the underprivileged children and families of Manhattan's Lower East Side. Then, as now, "Loisaida" was a haven for immigrants from all over the world, many enduring conditions of severe deprivation and adversity. Practically a century ahead of her time, Sara Curry grasped the need for many mothers to secure quality, affordable day care in order to enter and stay in the work force to support their economically struggling families. In fighting narrow-minded contemporary strictures against working women that were then prevalent, Sara Curry—and the Day Nurseries that she founded—helped provide an engine of opportunity that allowed countless families to lift themselves out of poverty while inculcating values of learning and compassion in their children.

In recognition of her indefatigable and effective stewardship of the institution, Miss Curry was lovingly dubbed the "little missionary" by grateful parents and supporters. And, to honor

her more than four decades of compassionate and visionary stewardship, the institution was renamed the Little Missionary's Day Nursery in her honor. In 1901, the nursery purchased its own building at 93 St. Mark's Place, which has remained its home ever since. Today, under the capable leadership of Director Eileen Johnson and Board President Herman Hewitt, the Little Missionary's Day Nursery continues to serve the families of the Lower East Side, dedicating a portion of its income to providing generous tuition assistance.

This year, the Little Missionary's Day Nursery is honoring three outstanding individuals at its third annual Sara Curry Awards Benefit. The honorees include the renowned Gloria Steinem, the inspirational writer, lecturer, editor, and women's activist who has become an international symbol of the struggle for women's equality and dignity. An equally deserving honoree of the nursery this year is the dedicated public servant, the Honorable Margarita Lopez, a champion of the Lower East Side and its historic progressive values, who represented this incredibly diverse and exciting neighborhood with distinction for two terms on the New York City Council before assuming a position of citywide leadership as a member of the Board of the New York City Housing Authority. The third honoree is Ms. Margaritte Malfy, the remarkably accomplished chef and restaurateur. In addition to her accomplishments as an artist and as the co-owner and co-executive chef of La Palapa Cocina Mexicana, Ms. Malfy has dedicated her prodigious energies to many worthwhile causes that benefit the people of the Lower East Side, and indeed around the world, including human rights and children's organizations such as Art/NY, the Nepalese Children's Home in Nepal, and, of course, the Little Missionary's Day Nursery.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Little Missionary's Day Nursery and its three remarkable honorees this year as well as the tremendous contributions this outstanding educational and child care facility and its graduates have made to our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO THE BACHAN FAMILY

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2007

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and respect that I wish to commend one of Northwest Indiana's finest families for their bravery in the field of battle and their willingness to fight for their country. The history of the Bachan family of East Chicago, Indiana, and their commitment and service to the United States of America, is a true source of pride in Northwest Indiana. The Bachans represent a great model of unwavering patriotism.

Natives of East Chicago, these local heroes served and were stationed in many locations, including Korea, Germany, and Vietnam. For a single family to offer so much in defense of our freedom, they are to be commended with the highest praise and admiration. The men I stand to honor today are: Paul Bachan, Milan Bacan, Richard Bacan, Michael Bacan, the late Joseph Bachan, Daniel Bachan, Robert

Bachan, and Steven Darryl Mihailovich, as well as their brothers-in-law, Donald Knieriemen, a veteran of the United States Navy, and the late Henry Butch Haluska, a veteran of the United States Air Force.

To further demonstrate their desire to serve their country, two of these men, Joseph and Robert Bachan, chose to make careers of their service. Joseph served his entire military career in the United States Army, the branch where all of the brothers served, while Robert split his time serving both in the United States Army and the United States Navy.

It came as no surprise to those who knew the Bachan boys that these men would make the decision to serve their country. These men grew up together in East Chicago and always felt tremendous pride for their country, knowing all too well the dangers that would exist if they chose to enlist. Undeterred, they would go on to serve their country with selfless sacrifice and bravery. Their courage and heroism will always be remembered, and their sacrifice, along with the sacrifice of all of our veterans, lives on in the hearts and minds of all Americans. Surely, it is through the service of brave citizens like the Bachan brothers that we can enjoy the freedoms and values we so dearly treasure today.

Madam Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring these fine individuals. Let us never forget their service and the sacrifices they made to preserve the ideals of freedom and democracy. I can say with certainty that Northwest Indiana is proud to be the home of the Bachan family.

HONORING THE 36-YEAR SERVICE OF FRANK BARNES TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2007

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Frank Barnes, a long-time House Armed Services Committee employee, on his retirement from the U.S. House of Representatives after 36 years of exemplary and professional service.

Frank began his congressional career by joining the Office of the Speaker and Parliamentarian in 1972. Already then, Madam Speaker, were Frank's trademark traits—professionalism, dedication, loyalty, and kindness of spirit—in evidence. In fact, in a letter commending him for his service, Speaker Carl Albert wrote to Frank the following:

"Your ability to deal directly with the Members of the House and their staffs when the occasion arose was outstanding. This sets your job above most of those in other offices around the Capitol, and your performance in this regard has brought credit to yourself and to the Office of the Speaker and Parliamentarian. But beyond your ability to do a great job, I want to thank you for the manner in which you did it. You were always courteous, thoughtful and helpful. No task ever proved too difficult, and you consistently seemed to do more than what was asked.

Since March 5, 1979, the House Armed Services Committee has been fortunate to benefit from his abilities and skills. Serving six

committee chairmen, Frank's contributions ensured the smooth operation of committee business, under frequently demanding hearing and mark-up schedules, and helped facilitate the annual defense authorization process. His dedication was such that even after suffering a stroke last year before markup, Frank chided his doctor for not allowing him to leave the hospital and go to work.

Madam Speaker, too often public perception of Congress is colored by the actions of a few powerful or well-known figures. However, as one who shares Frank's long tenure on Capitol Hill, I know that Congress relies on the dedicated staff who steadfastly complete their work in the shadow of the dome and in the shadow of the limelight. Frank has tenaciously labored on behalf of our men and women in uniform as well as each of us in this Chamber and his absence will be felt by all who have had the privilege of working with him.

Simply stated, Frank leaves a legacy that is both remarkable and unsurpassable.

On behalf of all of the members of the House Armed Services Committee and his colleagues on the HASC staff, I congratulate Frank on his retirement and thank him for his exemplary public service. With deep appreciation, we extend to Frank, his wife Ann, his sons Frank Jr. and Glenn and their families every best wish for health and happiness in the years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF DIRK MCCALL
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS BEING
HONORED BY THE QUEENS LES-
BIAN & GAY PRIDE COMMITTEE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Dirk McCall, an outstanding New Yorker who has devoted himself to public service and to his community, his city, and his country throughout his career. Dirk McCall is a beloved and well-respected leader of New York City's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans gender, LGBT, community, the largest of any city in our Nation, and a determined, effective, and compassionate professional advocate for persons with autism. This month, Dirk McCall and our esteemed and distinguished colleague, the Honorable BARNEY FRANK of Massachusetts, are being honored by the Queens Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee at its annual Winterpride celebration in Astoria, New York.

A proud son of a military family, Dirk McCall grew up on a series of military bases throughout the southern United States. Following his dream of making his mark in the Big Apple, he made his home in Astoria in the Borough of Queens after his graduation from Emory University in Atlanta. For the last 13 years, he has devoted his prodigious energies in service to his neighborhood, to his fellow members of New York's LGBT community, and to the service of those in need.

As the president of the Stonewall Democratic Club of New York City, the largest LGBT political club in the Nation's greatest metropolis, Dirk McCall presided over a period of enormous growth in that organization's membership and its influence over key policy-makers

on the city, State, and Federal levels. An indefatigable activist, he also co-founded Out Astoria, a social organization for northwest Queens' rapidly growing LGBT community. He also founded and led the LGBT Caucus of New York State Young Democrats.

CONGRATULATING THE STAFF OF
WAPAKONETA MANOR

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2007

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I take great pride in recognizing the staff of Wapakoneta Manor, a skilled nursing facility in my congressional district. Wapakoneta Manor was one of only 11 facilities among the nearly 1,000 nursing homes in Ohio to be designated "deficiency-free" by the Ohio Department of Health in 2006.

Wapakoneta Manor has been serving the senior citizens of the Wapakoneta area for nearly four decades. This 97-bed facility excels in a wide variety of assistance and rehabilitation areas, including physical, occupational, and speech therapy.

When you consider that nursing homes may be cited for any number of minor violations during health and safety inspections, Wapakoneta Manor's deficiency-free rating is even more impressive. Such outstanding performance is the norm for the facility's staff, which has received citation-free evaluations in four of the last five survey periods.

A record like that, Madam Speaker, is not compiled through happenstance. It requires staff members who know the value of teamwork, who care about residents and their families, and who give their all to maintain a top-quality facility to best serve the senior population of the Wapakoneta region.

On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Ohio, I congratulate the skilled professional staff of Wapakoneta Manor on this exceptional achievement. The people of Wapakoneta and Auglaize County can take great pride in this remarkable record of service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I would like to state for the record my position on the following votes I missed due to reasons beyond my control.

On Monday January 29, 2007 I had to tend to some family matters and thus missed roll-call votes Nos. 58, 59, and 60. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all votes.

IN RECOGNITION OF WILHELMINA
COLE HOLLADAY ON RECEIVING
THE NATIONAL ARTS CLUB'S
GOLD MEDAL OF HONOR

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Wilhelmina Cole Holladay, a great American who has devoted her life to promoting the development and appreciation of great women artists. In November of 1981, Wilhelmina Cole Holladay founded the National Museum of Women in the Arts in our Nation's Capital. In the ensuing quarter century, the Museum has enlightened countless members of the public about the remarkable achievements of women artists throughout history by acquiring, preserving and exhibiting great works of art by women. This month, Wilhelmina Cole Holladay is receiving the Gold Medal of Honor from the National Arts Club of New York City in recognition of her remarkable, visionary leadership and her tremendous contributions to the arts.

In the 1960s, in concert with her husband Wallace, Wilhelmina Cole Holladay began carefully assembling a unique and invaluable collection of significant works of art by women, whose tremendous creative contributions to the fine arts had historically been grievously underappreciated and often overlooked altogether. The Holladay Collection constituted the core of the offerings of the National Museum of Women in the Arts when it was founded in 1981, and the basis of its permanent collection.

To fulfill its mission of increasing exposure to and appreciation of great art by women, the National Museum of Women in the Arts cares for and displays this magnificent permanent collection, offers special exhibitions, conducts outreach and education programs, maintains a research center and library, produces periodicals and books on women artists, and provides support to artists and fine arts groups around the globe. The Museum also offers a home in the capital area to those devoted to the appreciation of the performing and literary arts and other creative disciplines.

During the first 5 years of its existence, the National Museum of Women in the Arts operated from temporary offices, with docents conducting tours of its collection and special exhibitions at the Holladays' own residence. Two decades ago, the Museum opened its permanent home in a 78,810-square-foot Washington landmark located by the White House, previously a Masonic Temple. The Museum's handsome building was refurbished to meet the most demanding design, museum, and security standards, and has since earned several architectural awards.

Wilhelmina Cole Holladay's significant and enduring contribution to American art and culture are very appropriately being recognized this month by the National Arts Club, an institution dedicated to stimulating, fostering and promoting public interest in the fine arts since its founding in 1898. Located in the architectural gem of the Samuel Tilden Mansion on Manhattan's picturesque Gramercy Park, the National Arts Club is a designated New York and National Historic Landmark and a pillar of the culture and artistic heritage of the United States of America.